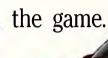




When the kids are playing

ball this summer make sure they use proper safety equipment.

Before, during and after



Before you send the kids out to play competitive baseball you make sure they have

the right tools. Stuff like batting helmets and catcher's gear. Things to protect them during the game. You can also help safeguard them on the way to the game.

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What's Right With America



National Commander Joseph J. Frank

Riot rocks city following jury's verdict... Junior beauty pageant winner found murdered... Another African-American church torched by arsonist... Pro football player lassoed on drug charges... Schools get failing grade in preparing kids for workforce...

ELCOME to the daily news, a seemingly never-ending litany of crime, hate, broken values, lack of respect and lost dreams. "If it bleeds, it leads"; that motto of hardbitten editors often dictates what is news and what is not. Just scan the front page of any local newspaper for the latest digest of discord and discontent. And at the end of the day, Dan Rather and other news anchors gaze into the eyes of millions of Americans and recap the latest tales from the dark side of the human spirit.

"People can only take so

much reality," T.S. Eliot once said. "And there is too much reality in today's news and the media that convey it." It's too easy to ask: "Is there anything right in America? Is there any such thing as good news?" Indeed there is, and such stories often go unreported, or at best, underreported—buried on the bottom of the back page or as a brief mention as the network news signs off.

That's why this special issue of THE AMERICAN LE-GION MAGAZINE is taking a look at what Americans. individually and collectively, are doing to make their nation a better place to live. This issue chronicles the concerned citizen in the big city, who, along with his neighbors, works to ensure that their neighborhood is safe from dope dealers and gangs. It discovers how black, brown, yellow, and white hands are clasped together to drain hate and to build enduring bridges for their children and grandchildren.

This issue celebrates that single volunteer twinkling among those "thousand points of light," seeking to fill a need or to bring a smile to a tear-stained face. It affirms Americans who are turning and returning to their houses of worship and putting their faith in their Creator, It salutes families whose strength springs from their commitment to traditional values—fleshand-blood commitments to mutual respect, fair play,

compassion and civic responsibility.

When I became your National Commander, one of my predecessors told me I was about to embark upon a great adventure, along with the honor of wearing the red cap of the world's largest veterans organization. This has been a yearlong journey into the heart of The American Legion family. My travels have given me a front-row seat to the good deeds you perform day after daynever asking for reward, recognition or compensation. Let me share a few examples of the good news of the Legion family.

In North Lake Brownwood, Texas, Legionnaires continue to build on our founding principle of "service first." Last October, several Posts in the 11th and 12th Districts continued with their day-on-the-lake outing with disabled veterans from nearby VA hospitals. About 80 veterans were treated to a day of fishing and fellowship. "This outing might just be for one day, but the memoriesincluding those exaggerated fish stories—linger throughout the year," says one Legionnaire who helps coordinate the annual event.

Members of Michigan's George F. Goebel Post 335 live up to their motto, "Where You Can Feel At Home," in the community of Grand Rapids. Last year, the Post sponsored a golf tournament and donated the proceeds to assist and provide entertainment to terminally ill children. The Post also provided cash assistance to the daughter of a deceased member so that she could stay in college.

In Louisville, a town best known for the Kentucky Derby, members of Highland Post 201 have set the pace for more than 40 years by hosting the Child Welfare Carnival. Last year, more than \$56,000 raised from food, craft sales and games of chance went to charitable groups that help disabled, ailing and poor children in the greater Louisville area.

I could cite countless other examples of the good news you bring to your communities and neighbors. American Legion family members, through their Posts, Units and Squadrons, ask for nothing more than to serve and do what's right for America.

It's fitting that my final column ends on a note as lofty as the intent of this issue. It has been my privilege to have served with and among you over the last year. The promise that this would be a great adventure has been more than fulfilled, and I leave office with renewed confidence that there is no lack of good news in our great nation. God bless each of you—and God bless America.

Joseph J. Frank

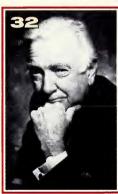


THE AMERICAN

Vol. 143, No.3

September 1997

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What's Right With America

Diversity, innovation and the spirit of individualism combine to make our nation great and its people unique.

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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.8 million members. These wartime veterans, working through nearly 15,000 community-level Posts, dedicate themselves to God and country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's vouths.



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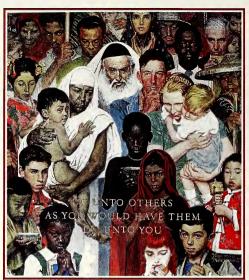
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The American Mosaic

FEW months ago, we asked you to become a part of this special issue, Good News. America. Your assignment was to describe a part of the American mosaic that you felt is often overlooked or under-appreciated.

You didn't let us down. Hundreds of submissions were

received, letters that painted vast and rich mini-portraits of America and Americana. The difficult part of this exercise rested on our shoulders: selecting letters for publication which appear below. "Our only regret is that we did not have the space to publish all of the material we received," says Steve Salerno, publisher/editor-in-chief.

The Gift of Time

ETIREES are a positive part of the American mosaic. We come in a variety of sizes, colors and ages, but we have one thing in common-time to share.

We have time to share with our families, with our grandchildren, be it a few hours or a few days. We have time for neighbors, to mow a lawn or snow-blow a driveway, take someone shopping or just stop by and smile. We have time for our church, to sing in a choir, work on a grounds committee or help with a baked food sale.

We have time for our community. We volunteer at schools, at hospitals and libraries. We cook and serve at soup kitchens. We deliver meals on wheels and run clothes closets

We have time for our country. We serve as election inspectors, collect signatures and sell poppies.

Just don't expect us to have time to sit still. The rocking chair will have to wait

> Elizabeth Pierce Rochester, New York

Living Well

THE sun rises over an open field. There's a slight dew on the crops as they wake from

their sleep. The freshly cut hav smells sweet, and the birds have started singing their songs. Frogs from the adjacent pond join in the chorus. Off in the distance, the butterflies are swooping from flower to flower. It's the start of another day here in the country.

Now it's chore time, and my two young sons eagerly follow me, doing their part. There's always time to cuddle the new kittens and puppies. We take a little stroll to the pond and explore along the river that runs into it. A few ducks and geese have their families out for a swim. It truly is a beautiful world out there, if only a person takes time to look around. We have neighbors who help each other when the need arises. It's a friendship that lasts a lifetime.

So the day progresses, with the things that need to be done. With its closing, we go out for an evening walk, knowing that we are safe here. I take my two sons and go stargazing at night, opening up new horizons to explore. We pray for peace and love, wishing other parts of the world could experience what we have right here. Otto Tjaden

Dumont, Iowa

Foundation of Faith

NCE revered. America's churches stand overlooked and undervalued. It's ironic, Biblical concepts-freedom, human rights, equality, the rule of law-once thundered from colonial pulpits, electrified the Declaration of Independence and sparked a revolu-

Who led the antislavery, suffrage and temperance movements? Who crusaded against child labor and segregation, legitimized labor unions, and built so many of our hospitals, nursing homes and colleges? Churchfolk.

When Army doctors couldn't handle the Civil War's casualties, churches helped organize the U.S. Sanitary Commission.

Who knows how many couples stay together because churches help them? The children know.

> Jonathan Carlsen Chicago, Illinois

Finding America

HE strong odor of propane kept getting worse as my wife and I wheeled our 26-foot motorhome across the California desert. We finally made it to Barstown where the owner of the local propane station was able to detect and fix the leak. He refused to accept any money because he knew what a traumatic



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experience it had been to drive in a fog of volatile gas

Another time on a lonely two-lane highway in Nebraska, one of our front tires let go. Before we were able to contact a local service station, two motorists from nearby towns had stopped, Jacked up our rig and changed the tire. No charge.

One of our driving habits is to leave the interstates and visit as many small towns as we can. Once we stopped in Kerrville, Texas, and were enjoying a doughnut and coffee at a diner when a stranger joined us. He was the mayor, had noticed our RV and Ohio plates and just wanted to exchange ideas and views with us. We have found this to be a typical pattern throughout the United States.

We have discovered that Americans seem to have common bonds of generosity, friendliness and lots of conversation. We think all the various pieces have come together to mold one truly wonderful people.

Robert M. Debevec Madison, Ohio

Honored Vows

WOULD like to commend the role of the military wife to the American people. She is without a doubt the foundation of American patriotism. It doesn't matter which branch her man is in; she is always there to support him. In times of national distress. she might-at a moment's notice—have to take over the whole burden of raising the children and keeping the household together, knowing full well that her husband might be in harm's way as he makes the world a safer place in which to live. Putting her own feelings of loneliness to the side, she writes happy, cheerful letters to keep her husband's



SERVICE Americans always have been willing to answer the call.

morale up.

The military man might gain recognition through promotion, medals or letters of commendation, but the military wife is rarely recognized for her dedication. Having retired from the military, I can attest that many a good man would not have made it without the unfailing, faithful support of his wife. All military wives, past and present, deserve to be honored.

David W. Kashorek Bath, New York

Eagles in Flight

EARCHING through trinkets, relics and curiosities that might suggest an under-appreciated part of Americana, the eyes focus on a solitary item, a tie tack worn daily.

An eagle spreads silvery wings across two circles in which "Dad" and "Eagle Scout" are inscribed. The tie tack is a reminder of two sons who moved so quickly from infancy through child-

hood. Here the American mosaic records a father leading, guiding and loving for the sheer joy of it. Each young man shares unique experiences along the path to Eagle Scout rank. Each grows heavily dependent on the team effort, then seeks independence and soars toward unknown heights. Knowledge of environmental issues, a strong work ethic, pride in a job well done and a feeling of unselfish accomplishment go with them into adulthood. They leave behind a simple tie tack.

Tie tacks can easily be overlooked. Time can be under-appreciated. The mosaic includes two tie tacks, two sons and too little time.

Stephen Duckworth New Martinsville, W.Va.

Non-Headlines

Y DAY was a mosaic of teenagers. Our whole state was shocked when a student in rural Alaska shot and killed his principal and another

student. I couldn't believe it happened here in Alaska.

That same day I saw more than headlines. In the morning, I visited with an Anchorage ice skater who won third place in figures at a national teen competition in Nashville, Tennessee. Since childhood, she has worked her skates off in endless practice.

In the afternoon, I met with a neighboring teen. He wanted to do a class assignment on Vietnam because his father had been there. He wanted to talk to others (like me) who had been there, to better understand the conflict that still affects America.

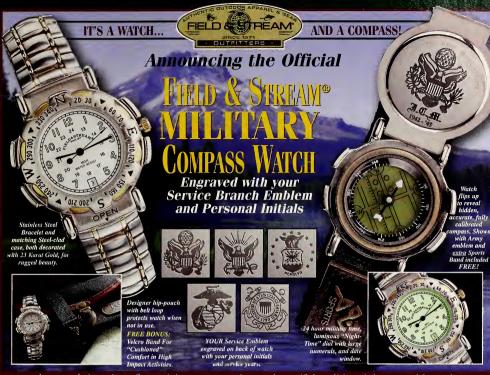
As I look back at that day, I again realize how family matters. The young, accused killer grew up without a family. The teens I met with spoke profusely about their supportive families. I know that the majority of kids are good and that troubled kids make the headlines. That's good news, America. I must write that up someday; I've always been for the family that was mine and the headlines we didn't make.

Brenda Rodgers Eagle River, Alaska

Accept Substitutes

Y CORNER of Americana deals with public servants who are rarely mentioned and often considered glorified babysitters. Substitute teaching rarely gleans much attention, yet these courageous, motivated individuals are a necessary segment of the educational process in our public and private schools.

Substitute teachers face the challenge of being with different students, in different schools, on different subjects almost every day. They work from the disadvantage of not knowing students' names, learning styles, abilities or disabilities.



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Many school systems require that substitute teachers meet the same qualifications as regular classroom teachers, vet most provide no benefits. The pay is ususally less than that of their fulltime peers, even if qualified in the subject area. Nevertheless, these education crusaders serve unwaveringly and treat each new day as an adventure to be explored, enjoyed and fulfilled. If you can read this, thank your teachers, both regular and substitute.

> Vincent O. Gonzalez Naples, Florida

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will participate in
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wrestling, swimming,
gymnastics and track

without hope of becoming a superstar or millionaire.

If you look at these students, you will see athletes who are competing to represent themselves and their school. You might see a fifth-place runner on one cross country team struggling to beat the fifth-place runner of another team long after the first-place runners have finished. They know the team victory could depend on them.

You could see a gymnast practicing a routine over and over. You might see a 103-pound wrestler, too small to compete in any other sport, striving to win a state championship. You will see swimmers who rise early to make the trip to a practice pool because their school lacks one. You will note a pole vaulter who worked out all winter to get in shape for the track season.

You will see a great group of citizens who know



CIVIC-MINDED Voting is an important duty of all citizens.

that anything of value requires hard work. These young men and women often are overlooked but are part of the good news.

Wayne A. Kirkbride Sylvester, Georgia

We're Getting Better

CAME to the USA from the Soviet Union in 1921 at age 15. Coming from a communist country, I was amazed at the general attitude of most Americans who took for granted the things my family and I never experienced: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, choice of work, unrestricted travel—and the privilege to vote.

Our country progresses constantly to a better future. Racism is declining, education is improving, and the variety of skilled workers and professionals continually increases. Medicine advances at a phenomenal rate, and drug use and crime are on the decline. I firmly believe we are headed in the right direction for a bright future for all Americans.

Max Schlossberg

Un-Tattered Ensign

Seaside, California

LIVER Wendell Holmes (1809-94) attended Harvard and began writing poetry about 1830. Reading that the frigate USS Constitution was to be scrapped, he wrote Old Ironsides and sent the poem to a Boston newspaper. The result was that the most famous ship in American history was rebuilt by public contributions and went on to make many tours.

The ship was to arrive July 11, 1931, in Anacortes, Washington. Dad, brother Bill and I embarked in Dad's canoe from our Orcas Island home and went with the tide the 18 miles to Anacortes. We arrived at noon and were thrilled to tour *Old Ironsides* and meet its crew.

It was a day for history. On the west side of San Juan Island, we saw a blockhouse at Old English Camp. There, in 1859, troops commanded by George Pickett and British naval units conducted a joint occupation while the "Pig War" was mediated by Germany's William I. His decision gave the archipelago to the United States.

As we paddled back to Orcas, we chattered over the excitement of seeing Old Ironsides. It was truly a great celebration for a girl's 15th birthday. It's truly good news that the Legion-led restoration and re-outfitting of Old Ironsides will make such opportunities available to 15-year-olds for years to come.

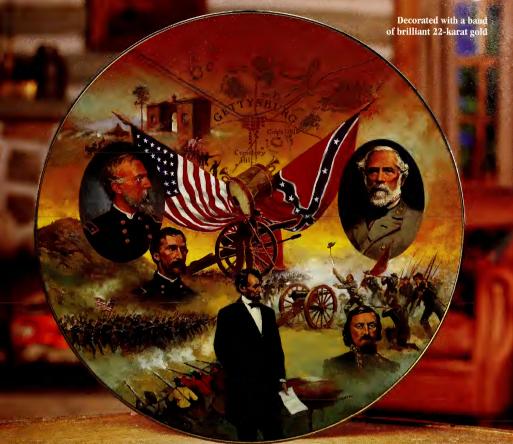
Mrs. Glenn E. Battson Port Hadlock, Washington

A Table Before Us

TOO often taken for granted and frequently underappreciated in America is that which nourishes, sustains and energizes us—an abundance of food. The good news is that most of us are well fed, thanks to natural resources, human effort, efficient distribution and armed protection from predators.

We often overlook food as a means of communication. It communicates at family meals, at formal dinners and at religious and patriotic festivals. If food were equitably distributed, it would say something even louder and clearer. Mr. Gandhi expressed it well: "God himself dare not appear to a hungry man except

North and South clash at Gettysburg



Outside Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on the bloody ground of Cemetery Ridge and Little Round Top, Union forces turned the tide of the Civil War. Fighting was herce during the three-day battle. And when it was over. President Lincoln dedicated the site to the

President Lincoln dedicated the site to the victims and to the cause of democracy.

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when he comes in the form of a loaf of bread."

We share food to communicate goodwill. When we understand the medium, our hearts are touched. To think of food as something originating in supermarket packets or tins is to be deaf to its meaning. We are challenged to respond to this divine gift that speaks to all, especially to the hungry among us.

John A. Vanderford Jacksonville, Alabama

The Grands' Design

HE great contribution of grandparents to the American mosaic is always overlooked and underappreciated. In teaching the values of respect, responsibility and honesty, the grandparents of America are truly "guiding the leaders of tomorrow with the wisdom of yesterday."

In some ways, grandparents have been forced into these leadership roles because there are so many single-parent families. Grandparents possess tacit knowledge of all the important information you use for living that isn't written down. This is unavailable anywhere else at any price. Having been students all of our lives, it is time to teach and guide the grandchildren. It is time to share memories and responsibilities from our past and show the grandchildren that it was not that long ago that we were children.

Think of your life as a flower and each petal as a story. Whether you garden, cook or build, invite them to help, watch and ask questions. The growing years speed by much too fast, and children are like sponges. Let them sop up the knowledge, tradition and heritage that make our American mosaic the envy of the world.

Michael and Jill Youtsey
Pasco, Washington



VALUES Family unity is the core strength of our nation.

Called to Teach

NE OF the most overlooked, under-appreciated parts of the American mosaic is the dedicated classroom teacher. Against economic odds and, in many cases, poor working conditions, the profession continues to draw fine young minds who believe they can make a difference in the lives of our children.

In a job market requiring a huge investment of time, a huge investment of time, these caring souls take on the burden of educating minds and hearts to lead our country onward. They do it for our children, my grandchildren—America's future.

Could the innumerable problems in our public school system today be solved if all classroom teachers, administrative personnel, other school employees and parents had this same caring dedication? Throw in the politicians and general public, and the answer is a resounding "Yes!" Cooperative effort—we did

it in the '40s and won a war. Couldn't we do it again for our children?

In the meantime, God bless the teachers in shining armor who care enough to make an important difference in classrooms across America.

Barbara Y. Daniels Fairhope, Alabama

Proud to Be an American

THINK people underestimate what it means to be an American. It's not about cars, money, homes, property or taxes. It's about love. It's about pride. It's about freedom.

It's about seeing our flag snap and wave in the good, stiff breeze, and understanding what it represents. It's about feeling the tears well up in your eyes as you stand proudly with your hand placed firmly over your heart as you sing *The Star-Spangled Banner*. It's about watching fighter jets, in a cloudless blue sky, maneuver

swiftly above you in missing-man formation. And knowing in your heart of hearts what that means: someone died so that you could stand there in the midst of these awe-inspiring sights and sounds. Alive, unafraid and free.

Anita M. King Frankfort, Ohio

Steel Town Magnolias

HEN I was kid in the late '20s and '30s in South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, I remember the immigrant wives and mothers trudging to work daily. Their husbands and sons worked long hours at the local steel company, but these women were also very busy.

They raised children and sent them to school, then walked or took the trolley to work. After their shift, often working at sweat shops, they stopped at the corner butcher or market for groceries. They went home to cook and then began the domestic chores. With that done, Moms and Dads often were helped by their kids to learn English better to prepare them for their citizenship papers.

The immigrant women were often overlooked because they were taken for granted. They did what they had to do to better themselves and their families, and they were true pillars of the community.

Cornelius Meza Quakertown, Pennsylvania

Renewing The Dream

S an American, I'm in danger of sitting back and assuming that my children and I will simply continue to enjoy the freedoms and advantages that citizenship guarantees.

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Aaron Frechette N. Smithfield, Rhode Island

E Pluribus Unum

HROUGHOUT our history, Americans have always pulled together during a crisis. No matter the color of one's skin, religious and political beliefs, or other differences, we always seem to step forward and work together. That's devotion and loy alty to our country. Standing together truly is the American way and will never change as long as democracy continues.

Robert L. Moore Auburn, Maine

Spirit of America

HILE stationed in Texas in 1940, the circus came to town. I and other members of my military outfit were asked to donate \$6 each so that underprivileged kids could attend this event. We were making \$30 a month then, but we were glad to donate what we could.

I believe this is the spirit of America, then and now. Today, Americans have responded to help victims of the Red River flood in North Dakota and Minnesota. We help people who have been



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affected by earthquakes in California, hurricanes in Florida and the recent tornado in Texas. We always respond with money, time and service to help our fellow Americans, and we often help those overseas. This is a big country with a big heart.

George R. Sims

The Stories We Tell

Chicago, Illinois

O," I say. "My mother can't return my call. I'm in Sarajevo." My mother's co-worker pauses then responds, "Oh, the war zone."

Well, Hallelujah for American Moms and Pops sitting around their kitchen tables studying maps and reading books to see where their "babies" are in relation to bomb explosions recently reported in newspapers and on the TV. Hallelujah for the news, transforming unknown cities into landmarks and keeping Americans informed.

Never in my 25 years did I dream I would end up in a combat zone, even after watching "Star Wars" and "Mad Max." And when my grandchildren watch their science fiction or combat movies, perhaps they can dream about their grandmother firing a pistol, flying in a helicopter, riding in a Humvee—or comforting the legless Bosnian and Muslim men, because I will tell them my story.

I will tell them of the July (1996) morning when I watched Muhammed Ali struggle to light the Olympic torch, and how my overly tired and emotional eves glistened when I looked around the room to see other Americans and NATO officers touched by the scene. I will tell them how proud I was when the national anthem was played and those voung American gymnasts received their gold medals. I will tell them that while I was logging weapons confiscations, I was proud to have the American flag patch on my BDUs.

Hallelujah to American stories and the people who tell them.

Jennifer Hayes Sarajevo, Bosnia

Book 'Em

PUBLIC libraries in America have been there for us for a very long time. Large and small, the library is a place where our children can do their homework, hear stories, learn a craft or find that special book that keeps them interested in reading the rest of their lives.

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Nancy P. Keating Maybrook, New York

Fatherland

AVING a father is one of the most positive aspects of American life. My brother and I count ourselves blessed for that reason. We were children of the Great Depression, but we had a great role model. Our father was a man who went hungry at times so that we might have enough to eat. He inspired us with his confidence, and he never doubted, when times were bad, that brighter days loomed ahead and that right would triumph.

Our father was a Legionnaire and living testimony to American Legion ideals. Though he did not go to West Point for his military training, he lived by the creed, "Duty, Honor and Country."

With fathers and similar role models, we have an unconquerable citadel—the American home. And to me, that is the good news, American

Robert Erhardt Fort Plain, New York □

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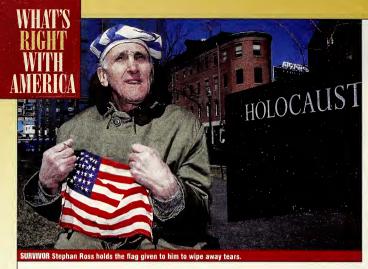
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Triumph of the Spirit

His day of liberation from WWII death camps marked the beginning of his greatest journey—to live in a land called America.

By Stephan Ross

HEN Germany invaded Poland in 1939, I was eight years old. A year later, I was condemned to Hitler's barbaric death camps as a political prisoner. I spent the next four years in nine camps in Poland and Germany. In September of 1944, I was sent to my tenth and last camp, the infamous slaughterhouse, Pachau.

I was locked up with 1.800 prisoners in a quarantine barrack meant to hold only 100. From here, the Nazi physicians would remove 30 prisoners daily for experiments. I can still see their cold, cruel faces as they came through the barracks to make their selections. Each morning after reveille, we began the ritual of carrying out the dead, numbering 80 to 100. The bodies were thrown onto flat carts and taken to the crematory by the inmates under the watchful, cold eyes of the

Due to the horrific conditions, hundreds of dead

bodies lay strewn throughout the camp. Food was becoming scarce. We were forced to resort to cannibalism. About two weeks before the liberation we received no food at all.

One morning, we heard shooting. The door at the end of the fenced-in area surrounding the barrack was pushed open and the guard was gone. Prisoners were running to the main gate. Extremely weak and hardly able to walk, I was determined to reach the gate. I walked for a while but became dizzy and fell. My older brother followed me, picked me up and walked with me, holding me up. Walking was difficult; we had to step on and around the dead.

On the way, we saw giant soldiers carrying emaciated victims in their arms, trying to clear the main camp street. They spoke to us, but we couldn't understand them. As we got closer, we saw numerous soldiers coming into the camp. Amidst the confusion and bedlam, the soldiers didn't

know what to do first. They gave us crackers, canned food, chocolate and cigarettes. They were a divine force of mercy sent by God.

We called them "God's Army." I looked at them and wanted to be just like them. I was so overwhelmed with joy and happiness when I witnessed these strong men who saved my life. Had they arrived just a few days later, I might not have survived at all.

There was such commotion among the prisoners who finally had been freed. Many were broken and dying. Life was no longer meaningful to them, and there was no way to rekindle their spirit to live.

The American soldiers did everything in their power to nurse us back to life. It was the end of the world for some and the beginning for others. The horizon was glowing with freedom.

It was a time I remember vividly with numbness, shock, despair and pain. I was concerned about finding food, but more concerned with finding my mother, whom my brother and I hadn't seen in five years. Little did we realize our family had already been murdered

I didn't even know it was April 29, 1945, when the soldiers finally came, because I had been kept in quarantine for so long.

It was an ordinary "GI Joe" who showed me kindness and compassion for the first time in five tragic years. Our liberators kept us in the camp for medical, psychological and physical evaluation for several days. We were finally allowed to leave Dachau on May 2, 1945, to

Please turn to page 111

Stephan Ross is a senior staff psychologist with the City of Boston's Community Schools & Centers. As a youngster in Poland, he survived Nazi concentration camps. Ross is the founder of the New England Holocaust Memorial.





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POTTING prey far below, the soaring peregrine falcon spilled the wind beneath its wings and plummeted toward earth like an incoming round. Still far above the ground, the feathered missile smacked its target, a pigeon, at nearly 200 mph, killing it instantly in an explosion of feathers. After a moment of free fall, the falcon flew off with another meal clutched tightly in its talons. The locale? Northern Minnesota? The

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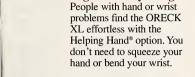
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Colorado mountains? Deep in a national park?

No, downtown Los Angeles. And this wild drama could just as easily have occurred in New York, Boston, Baltimore or any of nearly 50 other cities.

Two decades ago, the peregrine falcon appeared headed for evolution's

bone yard. Its numbers had dwindled to 62 known pairs, and extinction seemed all but certain. Today, nearly 1,000 peregrine pairs nest throughout the lower 48 states, often on skyscraper ledges, and their turnaround stands as a great endangered species success story.

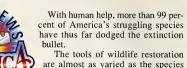
But only one of many, as plenty of other species also benefit from America's newfound commitment

to struggling wild creatures.

During the 375 years or so since Europeans first landed on these shores, about 500 species of American animals and plants have become extinct. Some, like the dusky seaside sparrow that blinked out in 1987, were never numerous.

Others, like passenger pigeons, once numbered in the billions. Even the mighty American bison came within a few hundred animals of disappearing forever from this Earth.

This rapid-fire loss of living things came to a screeching halt with the 1973 passage of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). "Nothing is more priceless than the rich array of animal life with which our



being helped. Grizzly bears roam the

northern Rockies because their habitat has been protected. The gray wolf again inhabits parts of the West, thanks to the relocation of Canadian wolves there.

Peregrines ply eastern skies and black-footed ferrets hunt the prairie because of successful captive rearing and release programs.

Before being released, zoo-raised California condors are trained to avoid humans and refrain from landing on power poles.

Education helps the public understand that red wolves, recently returned to some southeastern states, prey on rodents and other small animals and not on children. Prohibiting dune buggies from some East Coast beaches has allowed piping plovers to rebound.

The ESA's protective umbrella also has helped return large numbers of gray whales to the waters off the West Coast—much to the delight of thousands of human whale watchers. Thanks to action on the endangered species front, alligators once again thrive in southern swamps, brown pelicans dive for fish in Atlantic harbors, and more sea otters bob

near our Pacific shores. Woodland caribou still crop the trees of Idaho, ocelots prowl the Texas brush and whooping cranes still grace the skies of mid-America.

Even our national symbol once faced extirpation in the lower 48 states. In the 1960s, only about 400 nesting

pairs of bald eagles remained—down from perhaps half a million birds in the 1600s—and their numbers were falling fast. Today, nearly 4,500 pairs (plus several thousand juveniles) dot the land, making this majestic bird the living symbol not only of our great nation but of the kind of turnaround possible when endangered species get the help they need.

The bottom line with endangered species is that these animals (and plants) are not ours to let slip away. They belong to our children and their children, too.

Since we seem hell-bent on rearranging the environment, we are obligated to heed the wisdom of Aldo Leopold, the father of wildlife conservation, when he said that the first rule of intelligent tinkering is to save all the pieces.

The bottom line is that our endangered animals are not ours to let slip away. They belong to our children and their children, too. What we do today affects tomorrow.

country has been blessed," said President Richard Nixon at the act's signing. Commonly recognized as the toughest, most far-reaching environmental legislation in the world, the ESA seeks nothing less than the perpetuation of all species.

In the 24 years since wild creature preservation became the law of the land, nearly 1,000 species of animals and plants have been placed on the endangered and threatened lists. More than 40 percent of these are stable or improving, and only seven species have become extinct.

Gary Turbak, a writer from Missoula, Montana, draws a head on the preservation of our nation's resources and other environmental topics in this special issue.

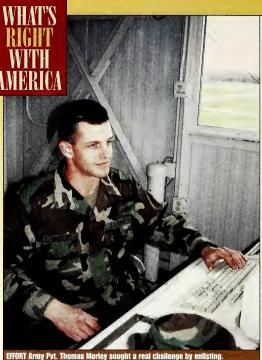


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They're Still Hiring

America's youth still answer their nation's call to serve in uniform, and they are motivated.

By Karen Jowers

OM Morley wanted to work for an organization that he could put his heart and soul into and get something back. He's found that since enlisting in the Army.

On his second day at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, early this year, the 23-year-old raw recruit got his first pat on the back. "On one of the road marches, I

"On one of the road marches, I put out the effort not to fall out. I did extra, and I got recognition for it," says Morley, a native of the south suburbs of Chicago. "It felt like I belonged."

Morley's platoon leader and company commander both shook his hand. In company formation, he was recognized for going the extra mile in front

of his peers in Alpha Company, 2nd Bn., 327th Inf.

"If you put that 110 percent out, you'll get the recognition for what you do. I'm looking for that," Morley says. "You can work yourself to death in the civilian world and not get recognition for what you do."

Whether a young infantryman like Morley, a young officer on a Navy frigate based in San Diego. an airman in Alaska or a Marine sergeant in South Carolina. many are seeing the military as an opportunity to build better lives for themselves and give something back to their country. From where they stand, feet planted firmly on the ground, the future is bright.

"America's always going to need the Navy," says Lt. j.g. Dante J. Marzetta, the combat information center officer aboard the

guided missile frigate *USS*Sides (FFG-14). "We're always
forward-deployed. The Navy's
in the middle of it.

"I'd like to see world peace, but the reality is I don't think it's going to happen in my lifetime. There's always going to be a need for us, that's for

sure."

Marzetta's family is steeped in naval tradition and patriotism. In 1994, he became the third generation of Marzettas to graduate from the Naval Academy. His grandfather commanded a destroyer; his dad, Dante R. Marzetta, retired as a Navy captain after 26

years; all four uncles are academy graduates.

His first tour of duty "has been a good launching platform for me. I've had my hands in a lot of things. On some of the bigger ships, you don't get to do as much," he says. "I wouldn't have these op-

"I wouldn't have these opportunities in the civilian world," notes Marzetta, who has kept in touch with friends who are having trouble getting the perfect job out of college. Meanwhile, he is getting valued supervisory experience and seeing the world. Later this year, he'll go to Italy as navigator aboard the command ship LaSalle.

The downsizing of the military has served to make the Navy "more competitive and much more selective," the 26-year-old says. The people he works with "are all working toward a goal. The knowledge level in my division... there's just no comparison."

Senior Airman James Lachapelle, 25, saw many qualified people leave the Air Force during the downsizing. "The missions are the same, they're just learning how to do it with less people. But the Air Force has responded well to it," says Lachapelle, who enlisted in November 1990 and knows he wants to make a career of the Air Force.

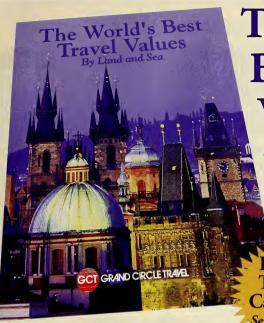
Like Marzetta, Lachapelle appreciates the experience.

Please turn to page 40

Karen Jowers of Fairfax, Virginia, takes her marching orders as a staff writer with the Army Times.



Sergeant Tonya Evans, U.S. Marines



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TURNAROUNDS

STREAMS OF CONSCIENCE

N June 22, 1969, the Cuyahoga River burned. Great tongues of flame roared 50 feet into the air.



Wooden railroad bridges became torched ruins. Incredulous citizens—and fire fighters, too—stood helplessly on the banks and watched. No one had ever before seen a river burn.

Flowing through the heart of Cleveland, the Cuyahoga had become

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a moving oil slick upon which growing rafts of debris had long since replaced boaters. Wildlife had abandoned its banks. Sewage and chemicals permeated its currents. And that June a stray spark set the river ablaze. The Cuyahoga's flames eventually died down, but the outrage did not. Across the country, citizens looked at their own

rivers, lakes and harbors and realized that many of America's once pristine waterways had evolved into open cesspools of neglect. Precious natural resources had become little more than gigantic public toilets. The Connecticut River, flowing through New

England, earned the sobriquet "prettiest sewer in the nation." Its color varied daily, depending on the hue of dye emanating from upstream paper plants, and fetid offal boiled to the surface on stinking bubbles of gas from decomposing sludge. Also in New England, fumes from the polluted Nashua River turned houses black and kept residents awake at night. People joked that birds could walk across the Nashua on the floating sludge, and the city of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, once considered-perhaps only half in jest-capping the river with a parking lot.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson called the Potomac a "national disgrace" because of the abundant sewage it carried. In Idaho, the Boise River sometimes ran red with slaughterhouse waste. Lake Erie, screamed the headlines, "is dead." In St. Paul, Minnesota, the Mississippi River ran sewage-filled percent of the population to serving 74 percent) put sewage in its place. In all, American businesses and taxpavers have since 1972 spent nearly \$600 billion cleaning up our waters.

The result has been a renaissance of water clarity that stretches from Puget Sound to Tampa Bay. The once

severely polluted and largely lifeless Boston Harbor now supports bass and bluefish, and porpoises and seals delight cruise ship passengers. For the first time in a decade, swimmers last summer returned to the lower Hudson River in New York, a stream that 30 years ago ran raunchy with raw human sewage, industrial chemicals and agricultural

Aquatic grasses, habitat for a variety of sea life, now thrive in Chesapeake Bay, where striped bass have made a remarkable resurgence. Today, the St. Paul stretch of the Mississippi is cleaner than at any time in the past century and home to 30 species of

Bass-not offal-travel the Potomac, giving our capital a river worthy of pride. The Connecticut River hosts fishing tournaments and rowing competitions, and eagles and ospreys have returned to its banks. In Boise, the greenbelt of riverfront park land has become the city's pride, and summer water recreationists abound.

Massachusetts lists the Nashua, with its teeming fish populations and abundant terrestrial wildlife, as a scenic river. Even Lake Erie is rising from the

dead. Fish are returning to some formerly lifeless harbors, and once-common algal blooms are rare. Many people swim and boat, making Lake Erie tourism an \$8.5 billion annual business. And the hottest things on the Cuyahoga River these days are popular new shoreside restaurants where pleasure

boats vie for docking spots. In city after city-Hartford, Peoria, Portland (Oregon) and Chattanooga (Tennessee), to name a few, once-fetid rivers have become focal points for urban renewal. Communities these days turn toward—not away from—their rivers as they build

the focal point for urban commerce. All this, of course, creates a new challenge-how to handle the multitudes of swimmers, boaters, floaters, fishermen, shoppers and others streaming toward America's cleaner waters. But that's the kind of problem any nation would love to have.

parks, theaters and convention centers. Cities today view their waterways as assets, not smelly nui-

sances, and downtown waterfronts are once again

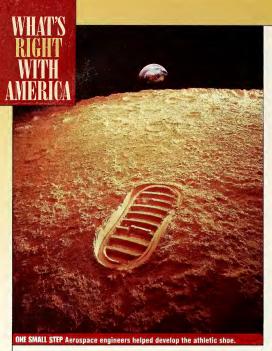
Three decades ago, LBJ called the Potomac a "national disgrace," Lake Erie was declared "dead," and the Cuyahoga River caught fire. Our waters today flow

cleaner and safer. and mostly fishless between banks lined with auto scrap heaps, industrial plants and train yards. Sea life of all sorts began disappearing from the once

fertile Chesapeake Bay.

"Enough!" cried the American people, and in 1972 Congress passed the Clean Water Act, a watershed piece of legislation if there ever was one. Many states followed with their own statutes, and gradually the polluted water paradigm began to change. Reforestation of slopes reduced erosion in many watersheds. Restrictions on industry cleaned up factory effluents. Elimination of pesticides made waters less toxic. And a boom in the construction of municipal waste water treatment plants (from serving 42





A Giant Leap For Mankind

From
Tang to
cordless
drills,
NASA has
launched
technology
now used
all over.

By Layne Cameron

S THE Toy Story craze infiltrated our country, Buzz Lightvear's battle cry of "To infinity—and beyond!" echoed through theaters. This mantra for high-tech adventure and idealism (which became a rallying cry for much of America's youth) merely reflected an ongoing exploit—perhaps the grandest of all. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has sent spaceships and probes to the craters of the moon, the stormy atmosphere of Jupiter, the shining rings of Saturn and the outer edges of the solar system.

Although often netting only

second-tier news coverage, NASA's astronomical number of frequent-flyer miles, plus its research and initiative, have given consumers front-page inventions that make daily lives easier. In a sense, astronauts and machines have traveled to infinity—and brought back some really cool stuff.

Some of these products have been around so long that they are taken for granted. Intergalactic innovations like Tang and freeze-dried foods are proof of that. Still there are many more UHOs (Unattributable Household Objects) that you might not have identified as space-age spinoffs.

Unleashed Electricity

Weekend
workshoppers and
small mess-makers
can thank the Apollo
astronauts for tools
that aren't leashed by
an electrical cord. Innovations from Black
Decker allowed the
moon walkers to drill
for core samples at

sites distant from their lunar lander. Back on Earth, the cordless technology came to be used in everything from screwdrivers, hand-held drills, miniature vacuums and telephones to rechargeable razors.

Oasis

After working in the yard under the hot sun, nothing tastes better than a cold glass of water—clear and free of foulsmelling chlorine. By using NASA's silver ion technology, General lonics was able to produce an electrolytic water purifier which uses silver-impregnated carbon as a bactericide/de-

odorizer. The end product was water sans foul odors and tastes; water worthy of a glass instead of a pool.

Reality Check

During the mid 1980s, scientists at NASA's Ames Research Center developed the first virtual reality (VR) simulator, VR video games became the rage in arcades everywhere, but it's the practical applications that will endure. Through computer assisted design (CAD) software. architects can "walk" clients through a finished building before a single nail is driven. Medical students will operate on computer-generated patients. In these virtual hospitals, an "oops" will produce a lower grade—not a corpse.

The Air Age

In the highly profitable athletic shoe industry, commercial cobblers are always looking for an edge on the competition. Avia Group International wanted a shoe that retained shock absorption, stability and flexibility over a longer period of time. Teaming with aerospace engineer Al Gross, they used pressurized suits as a model to cushion the soles of their shoes. This innovation took their shoes from the foam rubber age to the air age. One small step for Al....

Keeping a Head

In years past, kids, or adults for that matter, would have rather risked a serious head injury than wear a bicycle helmet that was heavy as kiln brick and hot as a blast furnace. With the help of NASA airfoil technology, Jim Gentes, founder of Giro Sport Design Inc., created a lightweight, aerodynamic helmet that allowed air to travel through the helmet to cool while it protects. His skid lids cover a Please turn to page 54

Layne Cameron has his feet firmly placed on the ground as assistant editor of this magazine.

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Going Live With Walter Cronkite



Today's sound-bite news reporting doesn't cut it with America's dean of broadcast journalism.

HE words sat wedged in his throat like a rock. "From Dallas, Texas, the flash—apparently official. President Kennedy died at 1 p.m. Central Standard Time—a half hour ago."

Millions of viewers sat glued to their television sets on Nov. 22, 1963, as Walter Cronkite, unable to conceal his tears, delivered the shocking message. This was a defining moment for Cronkite, the polevision anchorman who stayed on the air countless hours

broadcasting that day's painful events as they unfolded.

JFK's assassination wasn't the first presidential murder he reported. Cronkite's career actually began at the young age of 6. As detailed in his recent autobiography, A Reporter's Life, Cronkite ran through Kansas City, Missouri, neighborhoods announcing the death of Warren Harding like Paul Revere declaring that the British were coming.

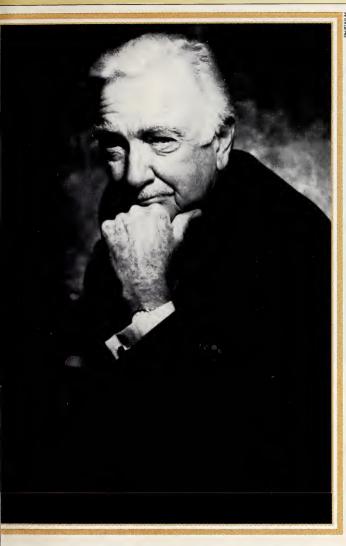
He discovered his true affection for journalism as editor of his high school paper, *Campus Cub*, where he says he first learned "that there was a sacred covenant between newspaper people and their readers. We journalists had to be right and we had to be fair."

Cronkite continued his career in print journalism with the *Houston Press* and later worked for United Press wire service. But he is best known as an icon of the glamorous world of television, working 31 years as a correspondent and subsequent anchor for the *CBS Evening News* until his retirement in 1981.

A demigod in the world of journalism, Cronkite witnessed such extraordinary historical events as the Nuremberg trials, man's landing on the moon, the burning of the *Hindenburg*, the Tet Offensive and the bicentennial of our Declaration of Independence. He has interviewed presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Carter and Reagan; foreign leaders such as Anwar Sadat, Menachem Begin and Fidel Castro. He also went one-on-one with well-known figures such as Jimmy Hoffa, Frank Sinatra and James Michener.

Lesser known is Walter Cronkite the family man, who enjoys race cars and sailing adventures with his family. And it was Cronkite who, in 1973, opted to have summers off with loved ones rather than pay raises.

Cronkite became not only a familiar face in family rooms but a reliable friend to a na-



tion that would hang on his every word. Strong ethics coupled with high personal standards earned him the undisputed title of "Most Trusted Man in America."

Cronkite, who spent decades asking questions of some of the world's top leaders, recently found himself answering questions posed to him by Assistant Editor Julie A. Rhoad about his career and views of today's media.

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE:

In your recent book, A Reporter's Life, you say the television medium today needs to improve how it delivers news to viewers. In what ways?

WALTER CRONKITE: The most important thing that can happen today would be for the corporate owners of television to give the news directors



full authority to do what they feel is right in the presentation of the news and not put heavy pressure on news departments to show a profit at all times. Give them an adequate budget and expect from them an adequate profit. We understand, of course, that in our market economy and our private enterprise system that we certainly don't want to tamper with the profit that is necessary in any capitalistic firm. We wouldn't expect news departments to operate at a loss at all times.

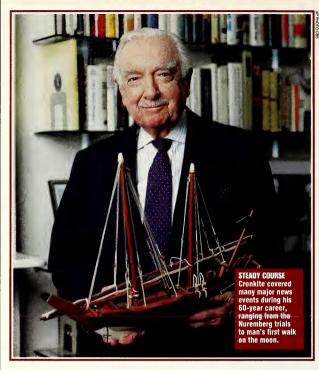
But we cannot expect news departments to make the same kind of profit that the other aspects of television do, such as entertainment and sports. Also, newspaper shareholders should not expect the kind of profits they would make in an industrial firm turning out industrial products. They are the caretakers of a precious commodity in our country—the free press. And they should be satisfied with a lesser profit to enable the press to operate efficiently.

Q. What things are the American media doing right today?

Well, the fact that we have a free press today is the most notable factor in our lives. Americans are so accustomed to the free press that we are inclined to judge other countries as to the efficiency of their

democracies based on how much freedom of the press and speech they allow. We also have become so accustomed to the protections our Constitution has given through the 200 years of democracy that we take the free press for granted. And we are inclined to be a little more critical of it than even the sometimes less-than-worthy press deserves.

1. You've been a journalist for



more than six decades. How has the nature of reporting changed in that

Oh, it has changed immensely. First of all, 60 years ago we didn't have

years ago we didn't have television so it wasn't a factor. Radio was a fairly new medium when I first went into the news profession. Newspapers were the dominant means of communication, and they were all competitive. Even in the smallest of towns, there often was more than one newspaper. They were highly competitive, perhaps more diligent and certainly more accurate than the monopoly newspapers of today.

Q. Why is it that Americans don't view today's leading broadcast journalists in the same positive light that they viewed you and your colleagues, such as Edward R. Murrow and Eric Sevareid?

A. I think part of it is that there are so many more on the air today. When the people you just mentioned came on

Going Live With Walter Cronkite

the scene, we shared the airwaves with only a few other people. There were only the three networks that people watched on television, and in many communities there was only one network chan-

nel available. So people placed a kind of a faith in us when they didn't have the opportunity to flip the dial to numerous other sources. I think that has something to do with it.

I think that the news broadcasts today are less substantial than they were in our time. There is a lot more featurizing of the news in the network broadcast today than there was in our day. We dealt almost solely with breaking news, front-page stories if you please. Newscasts today deal a great deal with what we used to call "back of the book" material of feature stories about your health, your pocketbook, your lifestyle, that sort of thing.

There's another factor to consider: I think that a lot of the reporters and anchor people today try to summarize the news in a single sentence. Viewers hear

a single sentence from an anchorperson or reporter on the scene and it sounds like an editorial. And that is unfortunate.

Q. You've interviewed some powerful and well-known people in your career. Does any one person stand out as particularly impressive to you?

Ma. Well, I think that probably the most-impressive, single figure was the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. I admired him immensely because not only was he imaginative and innovative in programs he expounded, but he was extraordinarily courageous. He knew the dangers both politically and personally in the policies he pursued, and yet he pursued them with an attitude of full steam ahead.

Q. You were known for your cool composure on camera while covering major news events. I remember seeing a clip of you moments after Apollo 11 landed on the moon, the mission where Neil Armstrong would take that historic step. You seemed to be speechless.

I still think that man's landing on A. the moon has to be the high point of this extraordinary 20th century-this most-extraordinary century of great scientific, technical and medical achievements. But of all these achievements. the one that will be remembered most specifically as the achievement of the 20th century will be man's landing on the moon. The fact that we escaped our environment and went out into space will be looked back upon by future space travelers, and they will marvel at our moon landing and those three fellows who got into the tiny space ship. And we all must feel that way about accomplishing this great feat in our time.

Q. What was the most difficult event for you to cover?

A. Oh, the hardest thing undoubtedly was the assassination of President John Kennedy as far as the necessity to control one's emotions at a time of overwhelming tragedy and sadness. Of course any story involving the human tragedy is a hard one to cover.

Q. You have said that in emphasizing political manipulation rather than issues in campaigns, the press has probably contributed to public cynicism about the political process. How can the media reverse this trend?

A. The answer is to give more attention to the issues rather than Please turn to page 78



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In God We

There's a revival of that old-time religion in America today, as we rededicate ourselves to God and others.

HEY say religion is having a revival in the United States. Well, religion never went away, though it seemed in recent times that many people were walking away from God. "If God believes in us, why don't we believe in him?" I posed this question to Mother Teresa. "Distractions—too many distractions," she answered.

Of course. It's not that some people don't believe in God, it's just that they have too many other things on their minds. So we have some people who casually state they don't believe in God. But they are distracted, By Robert Schuller



Still Trust

have too many errands to run. Too many pressures, and too many questions they're afraid to address.

Then there are the scientific-minded persons who also have trouble trusting and believing in God. In fact, some scientists believe they're on the verge of proving that there is no God. They call it the theory of everything (TOE). Stephen W. Hawking, professor of mathematics at Cambridge University, says "my proposal is the statement that the universe is a closed system. We

The Rev. Dr. Robert Schuller heads Crystal Cathedral Ministry, headquartered in Garden Grove, California. His weekly upbeat sermons and messages are heard every Sunday by more than 20 million people worldwide. He's the author of many books, most recently, If It's Going To Be, It's Up to Me!



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In God We Still Trust



don't need to suppose there's something outside the universe which is not subject to its law. It is the claim that the

laws of science are sufficient to explain the universe."

This theory of everything causes people to stop and question: "If laws of science can explain everything, then where does God fit in?"

Hawking's credentials are impeccable. When he speaks, people listen. They believe him. Well, listen to what

Dr. Hawking goes on to say: "Even if we had a TOE, we would still be left with one final question. What is it that breathes fire into the equations and makes a universe for them to describe?"

And does he have an answer? "If I knew that," says Hawking, "then I would know everything

important."

So we're back to the possibility of God-who puts fire not in equations but in human hearts and souls. That's why so many of us across the United States of America boldly and sincerely declare, In God We Trust.

Even in the face of pain, evil, suffering and tragedy, we trust in God. Moth-

> er Teresa once said to me, "We humans, not God, create the pain and suffering. There is so much selfishness." So even in the face of pain and suffering, In God We Trust.



sun shines on the

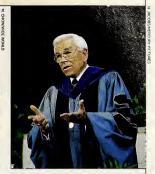
hands of two











"The only standard that remains true is God. America is turning to God. In God We Trust, both now and in the centuries ahead!"

Robert Schuller

People across America are spiritually hungry. They want to trust in God. They're on a spiritual journey, and they want to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way. Religion is having a revival in America. It probably never went away, but the American people are responding to religion because religion is meeting their needs.

Americans will always be a people who will respond to religion. It is part of the American makeup to be individualists and possibility thinkers. It is difficult Please turn to page 112

STILL HIRING

Continued from page 24

appreciates the experience. "The Air Force has given me a lot of discipline," he claims. "I've acquired a lot of supervisory and managerial skills." And the educational opportunities have been excellent—he's been a college student since 1993. He has an associate's degree in applied science—munitions systems technology, from the Community College of the Air Force. He's now attending the University of Alaska at Anchorage, near his duty station at Elmendorf Air Force Base.

The Air Force offers Lachapelle many benefits besides the experience. "The service up here is wonderful," he says enthusiastically, noting the base provides everything he and his wife need in terms of shopping, medical care and other necessities. He enjoys the challenges and the work, but he also gets much in return. "The Air Force does a lot for its people," says Lachapelle, a munitions inspector for the 3rd Equipment Maintenance

Squadron.

The benefits also are a boost for Army Pvt. Morley. He's living in newer, well-maintained and comfortable barracks, and more are being built at Fort Campbell. "The Army's been good to me," he says. "I'd rather be here than any place else."

The military attracts people who want to challenge themselves mentally and physically. Sgt. Tonya Evans was physically fit when she joined the Marine Corps in March 1988, but wanted more. "I was a runner, but I didn't have the upper-body strength," she says. She does now, and she thanks the Corps.

Her experience before coming to Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station, South Carolina, includes serving in the Persian Gulf War and two Okinawa tours.

The Corps has given her direction and focus, too. "I've become more independent, and less dependent on my family and others to provide for me," says the Richmond, Virginia, native, now 28.

She's started college, although that was temporarily on hold after the birth of her twins in November 1996.

Much credit for her positive military experiences should go to her drill instructor, Evans says. "When I came in, if you weren't getting stress, you weren't getting enough attention." She's always felt that the Corps is not an 8-to-4:30 job. If work needed to be done, she stayed to do it. Even in the early days, she says, 'I was lucky if I got home by 6 p.m. And if I had to get down and clean with a toothbrush, I did it. I didn't ask why." And she's proud of that.

Her job is to inspect facilities for the proper maintenance of equipment. Even with the cutbacks in funds, the

"You can work yourself to death in the civilian world and not get recognition for what you do."

-Army Pvt. Tom Morley

Corps is buying some new equipment, making maintenance much easier for Marines, she reports.

Evans fully intends to make the Corps her future. She knows that while the Marines are still looking for a few good men and women, there looms the possibility of further downsizing; she plans to be a survivor.

"The next three or four years may be iffy," she says, as her occupational specialty is being redesigned. "I'm trying to do what I can to be part of that transition. I'm pushing forward and letting them know I want to help train people and be part of that. I don't want to be on the back burner.

"Right now, the future looks good. But the Marine Corps does not let you sit back and wait for things to come to you. That's another thing the Marine Corps has done. It makes me want to go for things instead of sitting back and being lazy."

The military seems to be inspiring that sort of attitude. "I'm going to do my best to make the Army a better place," says Pvt. Morley. "I'm going to give the Army 100 percent to make it the best Army possible. It's what you make of it.

"If you come in with good intentions, the Army will do good things for you."



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STOPPING THE HEALT AND HEA

We have a long way to travel to end hate crimes and racism in America.

But we're on the path to harmony.

By Armstrong Williams

OOMSDAY critics have become darlings of the press recently by claiming that America is headed for a racial apocalypse. Syndicated columnist Carl Rowan has augured a race war, and writer Andrew Hacker has insisted that we are "two nations" made separate and unequal by racial differences. But are these dire predictions really a reflection of everyday reality, and do they present an accurate picture?

Some evidence tends to reinforce this position. During the 1996 presidential election, the so-called "race card" was played heavily by both parties. Church burnings in the south were exploited by the Democratic Party and President Clinton as an op-

portunity to stump for African-American voters. On the other side of the aisle, Republican minor contender Pat Buchanan made no effort to veil his xenophobic agenda,







and he even went as far as to say that the Holocaust never occurred and that Jews were engaged in "group fantasies of martyrdom." Nonetheless, he was given a platform at the Republican National Convention.

But political games aside, many would venture to say that race relations have come a long way in this country. For the most part, the lessons of the past have served us well. Yet, at the age of 38, I can vividly remember a time when people lived in fear of vicious racist aggression in the South.

Life in every era and for every person or group has always been a mixture of good and evil, joy and sorrow, cause for hope and despair. Undeniably, slavery was inhumane and unjust, but we can look back and see how our ancestors, both slave and master, were able to triumph over it.

The essence of America's success is found in a staunch belief in earning one's keep, being an asset rather than a

Armstrong Williams is a syndicated broadcast commentator and a columnist for The Los Angeles Times Syndicate. He can be seen weekly on the nationally syndicated America's Black Forum.

burden to others and in observing the balance between rights and responsibilities. I learned this in my life at a young age. My beloved parents—father, James S. Williams, who departed this life in 1985, and mother, Thelma Williams—taught my sisters, brothers and me these valuable lessons. They taught us by word and example not to see life as a bitter struggle. They taught us that there is good and bad in people of all races, and that we should keep our hearts open to the goodness of others until they give us reason to believe otherwise.

There was too much love of life in our home and in our surrounding community for us to be consumed by hatred or fear. I remember once when, in the middle of the night, our barns and stables were burned to the ground. We emerged from the house just in

time to see three white men running away. One of my brothers was extremely bitter about the incident, and exclaimed that he thought that the images of racist whites on television were true of the race as a whole. My father, though obviously pained at having his property destroyed, nonetheless took a very levelheaded stance. He sat us down and told us that the men who burned down our farm were not three white men. They were individuals with hatred and jealousy in their hearts. He implored us not to label or stereotype anyone based on the color of their skin. My father further warned us not to become embittered by other people's hatred because it would poison our lives as it had the lives of those three men.

I have carried this message with me throughout my life and have thus been very conscious of the way in which I interact with people. Many people in our society, however, have not had the benefit of such wise instruction while they were young. Moreover, our country still tends to be segregated by race and class, which prevents people from getting out and knowing each other. Thus, my efforts in this regard have been focused on bringing people together so they can get to know and understand each other.

For example, for several years I have engaged in the practice of hiring interns for my office from inner-city Washington as well as some from among the sons and daughters of the wealthiest families in America. My first requirement is that they all be qualified, and that they demonstrate the



STOPPING THE HATE

"<mark>An injustice</mark> anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Mildred E. Love

ability to handle the demanding work schedule at my company. It amazes me to watch them work together, observe them begin to respect each others' minds and talents and see them come to trust each other. This has worked so well, in fact, that we have encouraged other businesses to do the same. This is certainly one way in which corporate America can promote racial harmony.

Recently, Louis Farrakhan, who has long been controversial for his racially inflammatory remarks, spoke to a group of conservative Republican business leaders at the polyconomics seminar sponsored by Jude Waninski in Florida. While this was undoubtedly a daring move on the part of both, it follows logically from Farrakhan's pledge, made during his speech at the Million Man March in 1995, to end racial hostility and promote atonement.

There is good and bad in people of all races, and we should keep our hearts open to the goodness of others until they give us reason to believe otherwise.



This is certainly a good sign on the part of the leadership in both the white and the black communities. If dialogue of this sort continues, perhaps some of the wounds can be mended. In any case, it is worth the risk to see if Farrakhan is really sincere this time.

As many people are well aware, some of the most-repugnant racial hostilities have surrounded sexual relationships between black men and white women. All throughout the South during the early part of this century, there were stories of black men being killed for allegedly raping white women. One of the most famous cases in the mid-1930s involved Emmit Till, a 14-year-old Chicagoan who had traveled to Mississippi to visit his grandparents. While there, he allegedly whistled at a white woman and was subsequently abducted from his home and lynched.

More recently, the O.J. Simpson trial for the murder of his white wife sparked the same sort of racial fires.

But the positive news is that people are starting to deal with these dangerous stereotypes. Recently, with the support of NAACP president Kweisi Mfume, female soldiers in Aberdeen, Maryland, admitted that they were not subject to rape by their male superiors. Although improprieties apparently occurred, they were not, as some were quick to conclude, made under harassment or duress. Many people had begun to assume, depending on where they stood on racial issues, that this was a typical case of black male sexual violence, or that the white female soldiers had enticed the males and then "cried rape." However, these women had the courage and strength of conscience to admit the truth. When blacks

and whites are likewise open and honest about the relationships they have always had, then we will go a long way toward ending unfair stereotypes and suspicion.

On the national scene, ethnic and religious organizations have been instrumental in attempting to combat the ravaging effects of past and present racial hostilities. One of the most notable efforts is the "Rebuild Our Churches Fund" sponsored jointly by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the National Urban League. In July 1996, these two organizations, both of which have rich histories of battling for civil and human rights, were able to come together to combat the latest rash of church burnings in the South. This response, because of its strong message of solidarity, sent the message that Please turn to page 90



Show a youngster how to tie a shoe, choose clothes that match and respect others, and you'll teach the child the most valuable lessons of all: self-esteem and values.

By Bob Keeshan

Teach Your

S Archie Bunker would say, I am one of those "Doubleya'-Doubleya' Two" vets, part of the really big one. There were many of America's youth in uniform in that period in the early- and mid-1940s, but I was a latecomer to the party, taking a train to South Carolina in the spring of 1945 to begin my indoctrination into the Marine Corps. Those were hot months on lovely Parris Island, and my "genial" drill instructors taught me lessons I never imagined I could learn as a raw recruit serving America.

All of us in Platoon 345, and those in front and behind on that assembly line of recruits, were being prepared on sandy Carolina



GOOD MORNING Using comedy and common-sense values, Captain Kangaroo (Keeshan) and Mister Green Jeans (Hugh Brannum) inspired two generations of American youngsters.



Children Well

BEING THERE
Parents help instill
confidence in their
young children
by taking the
time to share
special moments
with them.

beaches for other not-so-friendly beaches, the home islands of Japan. Of course, a peek at history will tell you all that changed a few months later in Hiroshima and Nagasaki with the advent of the atomic age. When my No. 1 drill instructor gathered us up and told us to sit in the shade of a large Carolina tree, we knew that something of huge import had taken place. On the instructions of the lieutenant, Sgt. Hargrove described to us pitiful and confused recruits that, "the U.S. of A. has dropped an atomic bomb on the enemy, a bomb as big as hundreds of tons of dynamite!" Thus went my introduction as an 18-year-old to nuclear science and a new world.

This elementary explanation of a world turned around and upside down was followed immediately by the harsh command, "but if you ladies think this is going to make a difference in your life and training, forget it! Go, go, go!" Every day thereafter was at least as difficult as those days before the dawn of the atomic age. Thus it will always be in the Marine Corps.

While I was on Parris Island, a jazz musician, Hugh "Lumpy" Brannum, who would in a decade work alongside me as the farmer. Mister Green Jeans. to my Captain Kangaroo, was watching the baton of Marine Corps bandleader Bob Crosby, brother of Bing Crosby. Lumpy and a cool collection of other cats had come together to play for ceremonies and cotillions at the Officer's Club. The route to that musical assignment was the same road traveled by any other Marine from boot camp on. Lumpy might have been a great bass player but he was first, and always, a Marine.

Not a few journalists over the years have smilingly questioned the implausible fact that two of the gentlest characters on television's *Captain Kangaroo* came from the tough, macho environment of the Marine Corps. It is a matter I have never been able to address in conventional terms, but one I believe I can explain, nonetheless. Lumpy Brannum and I were both gentle souls by nature, and though the Marines could alter our behavior in important ways, as on hostile beachheads, they could not change us in fundamen-

Most know Bob Keeshan by his moniker for more than 30 years on early morning CBS television—Captain Kangaroo. Keeshan is the recipient of many awards for his work on behalf of children and for programming geared to their wholesome development. COLIBTESY OF CAPTAIN KANGAROO



tal ways. What the Marines did for both of us was furnish a discipline that made us better human beings and certainly better at our craft of performing on television in its early days, often in trying conditions.

The Marine Corps taught me about the importance of attention to detail. No job is too small for a private or for a Marine bird colonel; what needs to be done is the job of everybody in the outfit. In *Good Morning, Captain,* a photographic perspective of 50 years of my life, I can be seen holding cue cards for other performers. Holding cue cards is

"No job is too small for a private or for a Marine bird colonel; what needs to be done is the job of everybody in the outfit."

almost the lowest rung on the production company ladder, but it is a job that needs doing well. I have never been too proud to do it, or for that matter, to pour coffee for a guest performer.

Over the years, many kids right out of college who majored in television production have presented themselves to me and made it clear that they were prepared to take over as producer of the program. When gently told they needed to start in a more appropriate position like cue cards or production assistant, they sometimes would assert that they had spent four years majoring in television and they were not about to spend another few years working their way up. The need for work experience seemed not to be a part of their plans.

It is important that we wise and sage adults help our kids formulate more realistic attitudes toward careers and the workplace. I have been told by many that I was "lucky" to have made my way in television. I think it is important for young people to know what luck is; a better word would be "opportunity." We all are presented with opportunity many times, but it is critical that we be able to recognize opportunity, and even more important, that we be prepared, academically and otherwise, to seize that opportunity. Michael Jordan might have been presented with opportunity, but he recognized it and had the talent to take advantage of the opportunity. He worked hard for his "luck."

If you think Jay Leno was "lucky" to take over the *Tonight Show*, read his biography to find out about years of hard work and preparation for that "op-

portunity." A great surgeon, an outstanding academic, a skilled lawyer, each took advantage of opportunity and were prepared to do so. It's a difficult lesson to get across to a young person; patience is not usually a trait associated with youth.

I believe that self-esteem, confidence, if you will, is the basic building block in a human being. It is not something instilled in adolescence; the building of self-esteem is incremental and it begins in infancy. Right out of the hospital, a day or two old, is the right time for a child to begin building self-esteem. Parents often believe that an infant is incomplete, unable to communicate, unable to learn. Nothing could be further from the truth.

We know that children supplement the building of sensory perceptions from birth and that the stimulation offered to them can have a great effect on how they develop. The most important person in the life of any child is the parent; a child has a natural love for the parent, an eagerness to please and to be loved in return. This natural love is the greatest asset a parent has in nurturing a child. It remains in place until the parent acts, usually unknowingly, to destroy it. It is a great asset I call "parent power."

If the parent engages in a style of parenting in which a child is constantly denigrated, that love will be destroyed. It is often practiced by parents because that is how their parents treated them. "You dumb kid. Hey stupid, you call that a report card? I never got a C in my life. You're more trouble to us than you're worth. Get out of my sight!"

Day after day, the child is put down, and it becomes self-fulfilling. The child feels useless. After all, the most important person in his life keeps telling him he is no good. Professionals call it emotional abuse, and most parents are completely unaware of the serious damage they are inflicting.

Now, you could point out that my Marine Corps drill instructors were hardly given to positive reinforcement, but they were working with a kid who already had confidence. Their pushing me to do things I often thought I could not do reinforced that confidence. I came out of the Corps filled with confidence as the twin to discipline.

Teach young children that they can anything, even those seemingly impossible tasks like tying shoelaces, choosing clothes that match or building a tower of blocks that will stand on its own, and you will be incrementally Please turn to page 111



We hope not. But it doesn't look good. Because the common language of our country—
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More Than

AGame

In an age when "show me the money" beckons athletes, organized sports remain the best playing field for learning life's best lessons.

By George "Sparky" Anderson

OMETIMES I get the feeling that I'm trapped in some kind of bad dream. Where did all the sports go? Whatever happened to all the fun that's

supposed to go along with baseball, football, basketball, hockey and all the rest of our games?

Whenever I glance through the sports section of any newspaper today, all the stories seem to be the

> same. There are articles on players crying about having to play for \$6 million instead of \$7 million this year. There are stories about owners belly-aching

over how much money it costs to run a sports franchise today. While they're crying, they're tripping over their own feet trying to make a multi-millionaire out of a second-string infielder who couldn't hit .230 if he was spotted 20 points.

And then I just get sick when I read about some player who's been arrested for drug use or a serious sex offense. Or maybe he got upset and slugged a fan.

I don't worry about the player who did such a stupid thing. Whatever the penalty is, it should be doubled. That's the price he should pay for totally ignoring the gift he was given.

I get worried about what's happening to our sports. I'm really concerned that the true meaning of sportsmanship is being drilled right out of our games.

Our sports pages have turned into a financial ledger and police blotter. That's not all the media's fault. A lot of the blame must be shared by everyone who has allowed one of our nation's greatest treasures to be turned into a three-ring circus.

I'm tired of it and so are most of the other true lovers of

other true lovers of

I was so lucky way back when I was a kid. I played ball every day from when the rooster crowed until the sun went down. I even had the privilege of playing on the 1951 national American Legion championship team.

But it never mattered how far we ever went. I just wanted to play ball. I got into baseball because I loved the game so much. Yes,

I was fortunate. I wound up making more money than I thought they had gold in Fort Knox. Even if I hadn't, though, I would have been just as happy from all the experiences the game provided me.

A lot of the problems now begin right at home even before Johnny or Jimmy or Susie or Mary are old enough to understand what sports are supposed to be about.

It starts way down in the Little League when little Johnny is driven to the game by mom or pop. Not only do the kids have the full uniform and









scoreboard and umpires and concession stands and who knows what else... They've also got something that a lot of us old-timers never had to contend with.

They've got mom and pop sitting up there in the stands actually screaming at them or their teammates whenever they make a mistake.

I've actually witnessed this. I had to pinch myself to make sure I wasn't dreaming. What kind of nonsense is this? We've taken sports to a level that

George "Sparky" Anderson is a former Major League player for the Philadelphia Phillies. As a manager, he led the National League Cincinnati Reds to two World Series titles in the 1970s, and repeated the feat in 1984 with the American League Detroit Tigers. He also was honored as Manager of the Year in both leagues.

If you can walk away from the ball diamond or football field or whatever sport you play and tell yourself the coach got your best that day, then there's nothing for you to worry about.

More Than

A Game

I never would have believed possible. By trying to make everything so perfect, we've actually sucked the fun right out of the games.

I'm not talking just about baseball. The same thing is going on in all the

other sports.

Mom and Pop want little Johnny to do well in Little League because then he'll be able to go on to the best high school teams. Then they push him at all costs to step over everyone in high school so that he can get

a scholarship to just the right college. And it doesn't stop there because then they have their eyes set on the pros, where the logos on the caps and helmets and shirts might just as well be dollar signs.

The reason for all this nonsense is simple. It all gets down to money. And isn't that a crying shame?

Somewhere along the line we've come to believe that money will fix all our problems.

Well, let me tell you something: Money can't fix a thing.

Believe me, I never did any of it simply for the money. The money just happened. The money didn't make me better than anyone else. All the money meant was that I happened to be more fortunate.

If we measure people by the amount of money they earn, then we better throw all the yardsticks out the window because they don't mean a thing. Money doesn't measure success. All it measures is how fortunate

Just because a ballplayer makes a whole lot more money than the guy delivering the mail or somebody driving a truck, that doesn't make him any better of a person. In my life, in fact, I've found a lot of people who are painters or bellmen or waitresses who are a

whole lot nicer people than certain ballplayers or doctors or lawyers who make a lot more money.

People become good people when they take the time to look out a little for those who are having a tough time

helping themselves.

When I managed the Detroit Tigers, I was fortunate enough to create a charity called CATCH (Caring Athletes Team for Children's and Henry Ford Hospitals). More than any of the awards I ever won in baseball, the

creation of this charity is my greatest accomplishment.

CATCH helps underprivileged families and kids who are in hospitals. Some of my fondest memories from when I managed are when I used to take some of my players to visit those sick kids.

That's when the guys saw the real world. That's when you see how truly blessed you and your family really are. Those kids in the hospital didn't do anything bad in life to deserve what happened to them. They could have been my children. I just happened to be more fortunate.

Never once did I walk out of those hospitals without feeling that those kids actually gave more to me than I

had given them.

Certainly, I respect the ability of a ballplayer who can hit 40 home runs or run for 100 yards each game or score 30 points every time he sets foot on a basketball court. But I don't respect the player himself if he is only in the game to make as much money as he can stuff into his pockets without caring about those less fortunate who cannot help themselves.

I want to make it clear that I think it's great for any young man or woman who gets into sports to work as hard as they can to achieve certain goals. There's nothing wrong with that. But let's make sure that those goals

are pointed in the right direction. Never let money be your driving force. You might wind up with a bag full of money. But you'll also wind up with a truckload of heartache. All the money in the world will never make you better than the next guy. It only

I hope that any young parent who reads this article will allow his or her children simply to be kids. What's the good in driving Johnny or Joey or Patty or Susie so hard just to make mon-

means that you were more fortunate.

That's why we see so many young adults with drug and alcohol problems. That's why they have breakdowns and then pass those problems down to all of their kids. They're trying to go back and recapture the youth that they never

Let the kids be kids when they're supposed to be. Don't let the misguided goal of money get in the way of their growing up-when they can discover the real beauties of life.

Just go out and do your best. And then let it alone. If you can walk away from the ball diamond or football field or whatever sport you play and tell yourself that the coach got your best that day, then there's nothing for you to worry about.

Every person needs direction in life to live it to its fullest. If you set a goal and are unafraid to follow it no matter what the other kids say, then you'll wind up a much more fortunate per-

Sports can help provide that direction. But not if you make attaining wealth your only goal. Learn to love the game. Learn to live by the rules. Learn how to set a goal and work as hard as you must to reach it. Then walk away knowing you gave your very best.

My father was not a highly educated person. But he taught me the most valuable lesson I've ever learned in life. He said the only thing in life that doesn't cost a dime is being nice to people. If you're nice, every person you meet will feel good. And you'll feel even better for treating them the

Sports can be the finest field for learning. Just make sure to learn things the right way.

You don't need a lot of money to be nice. But the discipline you learn from sports can make you a very wealthy person.

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Continued from page 30

gamut of heads from ramp-jumping teenagers to peloton-proven professionals like Greg LeMond, a three-time winner of the Tour de France.

Sun-Powered

How disappointed would utility companies be if anyone could tap into his or her own efficient, pollution-free energy source? Photovoltaic conversion, better known as solar energy, could allow that, but as yet it is still too expensive for widespread use. In space, solar power has been the prime power source for nearly all manmade satellites. Terrestrial use still remains somewhat of a novelty, but has provided electricity for isolated villages, remote automated weather stations and sea-based navigational buoys.

Hurricane-Proof Rafts

Some of the Apollo astronauts wished the Givens Buoy Life Raft, invented by Jim Givens, was around when their command modules splashed down. It seems a few of the

flat-bottomed rafts which they waited in after their missions tended to flip over from the force of the rescue helicopter's downwash. The Givens model, complete with water intake for ballast, can protect its occupants from hurricanes and right itself when upended by large waves, yet can be stored in a small canister.

Shady Business

In the early 1980s, two employees from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory began researching a curtain that would protect welders from blue and ultraviolet radiation. Not only were they able to create the curtain, but they were able to spin off a line of protective sunglasses. The popularity of their shades can be seen in the droves of volunteer spokespeople who view the world through their amber-colored lenses

In the Driver's Seat

Seeing Apollo astronauts driving the Lunar Rover with just one hand on the T-bar control, paraplegic Tom Wertz had an epiphany: This technology could be used to allow severely-handicapped people to operate a motor vehicle. His invention, the Unistik, controls steering, braking and acceleration. Even someone with very limited upper body mobility can use the joystick technology to experience the freedom of the open road.

Don't Sweat It

Imagine running and playing on a stifling summer afternoon, but unable to break a sweat to cool off. Albeit a rare disease, hypohydrotic ectodermal dysplasia, not having sweat glands, can wreak havoc on its victims. Life Support Systems Inc. created cooling suits that circulate antifreeze through portable vests and headpieces which allow wearers to enjoy outdoor activities while reducing the risk of heat stroke.

Finger on the Pulse

How many fitness enthusiasts would be willing to glue an electrode to their body to track their heart rate during exercise? Not many. It was this line of thinking, though, that led NASA scientists to commission Texas Technical University to design a new electrocardiographic electrode. The improved. paste-free model was reusable and was not affected by changes in temperature nor perspiration. So thank an astronaut for introducing new terms like "target heart rate" and "anaerobic threshold" to fitness jargon.

Is It Hot in Here?

"You want to take my temperature where?" If babies could speak, they might register a formal complaint against the use of rectal thermometers. But thanks to Diatek Corporation's borrowing of NASA's infrared sensors that measure temperatures of planets and stars, the problem has been remedied. In less than two seconds, their aural thermometer uses an infrared sensor to assess body temperature before babies can say 98.6 F.

Fore!

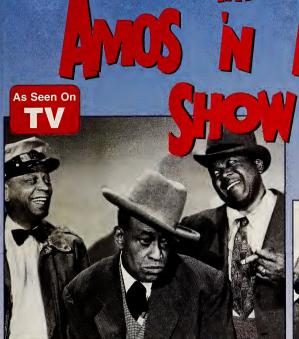
Robert Thurman, ex-aerospace engineer, explains his current job at Wilson Sporting Goods: "Instead of analyzing the slosh-damping capability of the shuttle's liquid oxygen tank, I analyze the effects of varying moments of inertia on the spin decay of a golf ball due to its liquid center." Translation: He designs top-of-the-line golf balls. By applying aero technology, Thurman reduced air drag and enhanced lift and spin. A recent ad campaign touted his creation as, "The most symmetrical ball available."



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Kings of Road AGAIN

By Brock Yates

After taking a beating from foreign competitors for 20 years, U.S. car manufacturers gird for battle and aim to reclaim high ground.

T HAS been a savage war, fought not in blood-stained venues like Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima, but rather in the boardrooms and factories of obscure cities like Dearborn and Hammamatsu. There, the great battles have been engaged, not with dive bombers and A-bombs, but with hunks of steel, plastic, rubber and glass molded into more congenial shapes. The struggle lasted nearly 20 years,

and while a fragile truce now holds, fighting could break out again at any moment, should either side flinch.









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At stake is the richest single prize in the world of retail—America's multi-billion-dollar automotive market, and in a broader sense, global domination of this pivotal business.

It began quietly enough in the late 1950s when America was at the top of its game. We had won the Big One, Our monster, befinned, rolling jukeboxes ruled the road. Detroit, the Motor City and the former "Arsenal of Democracy," produced more than 80 percent of the world's automobiles. The war-ravaged German and Japanese industries were only beginning to recover. Volkswagen, which had sold but two cars in the U.S. in 1949, had-in a decade-become the darling of college students and a tiny claque of motorists who eschewed the sheer bulk of the Detroit leviathans. But the VW remained a non-factor in the larger scheme of things, being but part of 600,000 imports reaching the market in 1959, less than 8 percent of total sales.

Two years earlier, in 1957, Toyota tried to enter the game and was rewarded with a paltry 288 buyers, most of them in trendy Southern California. In 1953 Nissan brought in its first Datsun sedans and sold a laughable total of 52. Honda, already a major player in the motorcycle business, was to wait two more years before even attempting

to manufacture its first car—the miniature N600 for the Japanese home market.

Is there little wonder that the powerful men who controlled General Motors, Ford and Chrysler were oblivious to any so-called "foreign car" threat? After all, had they not recently crushed such local rivals as Packard, Hudson, Willys, Kaiser-Fraser and Nash, while driving Studebaker to the brink? How could a collection of silly, under-powered sedans with strange Japanese names be considered a serious rival?

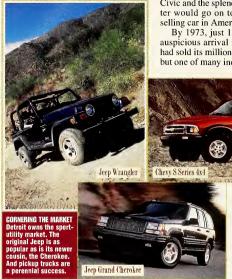
In several ways, as it turned out.

One. Detroit's success had bred smugness and isolation, which in turn generated shoddy, oversized products for a post-war generation increasingly exposed to highquality imported products of all kinds.

Two. Japan's newly rebuilt infrastructure of factories—housing well-managed, highly motivated workers and engineers—almost overnight went from producing feeble copies of pre-war British sedans to state-of-the-art small cars (ironically employing

Brock Yates is editor-at-large for Car and Driver. He took the exit ramp to Hollywood, writing the screenplays for Smokey and the Bandit II and The Cannonball Run. Yates also is a commentator for CBS Sports and TNN.

Over the last decade, American automakers have radically improved the engineering and quality of their products.



Civic and the splendid Accord. The latter would go on to become the best-selling car in America in 1989.

By 1973, just 15 years after its inauspicious arrival in America, Nissan had sold its millionth Datsun. This was but one of many indicators that the Big displacement Japanese motorcycles while openly threatening Honda, Nissan, Toyota and others that there were limits as to how large a share of the U.S. car market would be available, regardless of their excellent products and overtly predatory trade practices that

included dumping.

Thus emboldened, Detroit initially tried to fight back with a series of front-drive machinery such as the Chevrolet Citation and Cavalier and Chrysler's K-cars, which simply did not rise to the standards set by the Japanese. Ironically, it would be Chrysler, the weakest

of the Big Three, that struck the first telling blow in the comeback. Saved by Washington's loans and the feverish salesmanship of its CEO, the charismatic Lee Iacocca, Chrysler introduced the first minivan in 1983, thereby poking into a mother lode. An entire new market for car-sized vans was created—a market that would blossom to over a million units a year within a decade and propel Chrysler back to profitability.

The minivan's success caught the Japanese totally off guard and closed them out of a new market segment in which they never gained foothold. Better yet, Chrysler purchased moribund American Motors in 1987, thus bringing into their fold the Jeep brand at the precise moment America was beginning its love affair with boxy, go-anywhere, sport-utility vehicles (SUVs).

Meanwhile, across town in suburban Dearborn, Ford was hitting paydirt with its superb, front-wheel-drive, European-styled Taurus four-door. Ford also was upgrading and improving its excellent line of pickup trucks—yet another segment wherein the Japanese were unprepared to compete. General Motors, the largest and most resistant to change, struggled to keep up. Its superb lineup of light trucks and financial muscle kept it in the hunt while a new unit called Saturn was started in 1983 to create first-class small cars to compete head to head with the Japanese.

Suddenly, the Americans were back Please turn to page 96

Kings the Road

American inventory and quality-control innovations ignored in Detroit).

Tbree. Detroit was about to be knocked off its perch as a national icon by a spate of mid-1960s government safety legislation initiated, in part, by Ralph Nader's 1965 anti-car screed, Unsafe at Any Speed. This was followed by stringent clean air regulations in the early 1970s, which amplified the industry's penchant for producing oversized, inefficient "gas guzzlers," and the OPEC oil embargo of 1973-74, which demonstrated how unsuited the guzzlers were for the modern market.

Efforts to counter the rising import revolution with such failures as the Chevrolet Vega and Ford Pinto only confirmed Detroit's ineptitude. By the middle 1970s, the Japanese controlled nearly half the bellwether California car market, and Honda—after little more than a decade in the car business—first produced the breakthrough

control at least half the domestic market, while some Cassandras foresaw the demise of Chrysler and Ford with only GM hanging on as a weakened second-tier

player.

Three were in full

retreat. Even the

most optimistic

industry ob-

servers were pre-

dicting that the

Japanese would

As Chrysler sank to its knees in the late 1970s, only to survive with a federal bailout, the great battle for the car market seemed won, and the Japanese military defeat of 30 years earlier economically avenged.

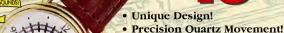
DUT THE near-death of one of America's most venerated corporations sounded a tocsin for the nation. The spectre of the Far Eastern trading and manufacturing colossus overwhelming a major manufacturing segment had become clear.

Despite a rising concern among consumers that domestic cars were inferior in terms of engineering, quality, performance and fuel economy, America was not about to cede the car sales to Japan.

Public opinion energized the government, which began a series of retaliations. The Reagan administration saved Harley-Davidson, the aged Milwaukee-based motorcycle manufacturer, by slapping harsh tariffs on large**Exclusive Collector's Time Piece**

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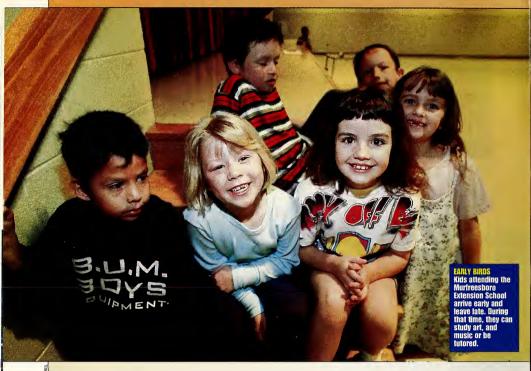
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Landof

Despite some criticism, the quality of public education earns high marks when innovative techniques are put to the test.

By Lamar Alexander

much talk about what is wrong with American public education, some might think we're raising a generation doomed to underachievement and failure. But all the talk is not justified and three schools filled with good news point in the right direction:



runs things from his desk in the middle of the main hallway of the Urban Day School

Students at Urban Day School still enjoy recess, though they have more homework and longer hours than Milwaukee public school students.

GETTING INVOLVED Parents at Urban

Day participate in their children's education. Mothers and fathers sit on the school's board of directors and serve on various





To reach the City on the Hill Charter School in Boston, you go downtown and walk up to the second floor of the main YMCA building. At first glance, you know this is a different kind of high school. There are 80 students. All of them read Shakespeare, write essays, learn to speak in public, use computers, study algebra, read primary documents in history and learn to swim. All students wear uniforms, participate in the school's weekly town meeting, perform public service and complete several hours of homework every night. In the math class I attended, 14 students were helping each other solve problems.

The City on the Hill school is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. with a study hall on Saturdays. Children are expected to learn and to behave, and parents are expected to participate in their children's activities. Most students are from inner-city Boston's toughest neighborhoods. No law makes anybody attend; each family has chosen this school.

This school is a public one, receiving the same funding per child that every other Boston public school receives. It is different because Massachusetts has removed from it and 24 other "charter schools" most union rules and government regulations. Teachers are therefore free to create a school that meets the needs of the children who choose to come there.

"This is the hope for public education," says co-principal Sara Kass, a former Rhodes scholar. By the only measurement that counts-whether children are actually learning what they need to know-Sara could be

right. Only 38 percent of pupils did math as well as their age group when they arrived; a year later that figure was raised to 58. Fifty percent were behind in reading when they arrived; a year later 39 percent were.

When I visited the Urban Day School in Milwaukee during the summer of 1994, it wasn't hard to find the principal. His desk was smack in the middle of the main hallway. The location of Robb Rauh's desk wasn't the only indication that this was a different kind of school. It sat in front of a

Lamar Alexander is a former U.S. secretary of Education, Tennessee governor, and president of the University of Tennessee. A presidential candidate in 1996, Alexander is the author of We Know What to Do and Six Months Off.



BOSTON To reach the City on the Hill Charter School, you go downtown and walk up to the second floor of the main YMCA. Free of bureaucracy and other restrictions, teachers are able to create a true learning environment.

Land of Learning

blackboard festooned with notes and schedules and drawings. Robb's chair was in *front* of the desk, facing two others, closing the space between the principal and students who have a need to meet him.

What is different here is that Urban Day School is one of only two programs in the country that allow poor families to send their children to public or private schools with the state paying most of the bills. The state has agreed to allow 20,000 of Milwaukee's poorest families to choose, if they wish, to send their children to private school. The state pays private school tuition up to \$4,400, roughly half of what Milwaukee's public schools spend per child. In other words, taxpayer dollars follow the child to the school of the parents' choice. Religious schools are not part of this choice program.

Urban Day goes through the eighth grade with an enrollment of just over 300 students—200 of them in Milwau-kee's choice program. These students wear uniforms, no designer labels on their clothes, no risk they will be robbed of brand-name tennis shoes. The students at Urban Day have fewer holidays, more homework and longer hours than pupils in Milwaukee public schools.

The parents at Urban Day become involved meaningfully. If they miss an

all-parent conference, they can make it up by going to school and watching a video. If they miss the video, the student is

suspended for a day and the parent has to pay a \$10 fine. The money adds up; so does the embarrassment. The parents sit on the board of directors. They work on committees.

"I feel so secure with my kids here," sys Urban Day educator Alma Walaton. "Since the school is so much smaller, I don't have to worry about gang problems. I don't have to worry about drug problems or teen pregnancy. They are more sheltered. They are getting a sense of self worth. And when they leave here, if they choose to go to a public high school, they will know they can function."

In 1996, a research team headed by professor Paul Peterson of Harvard University found that students in Milwaukee's choice program, after three and four years, were learning more than similar students who stayed in public schools: 3 and 5 percentage points better in reading and 5 and 12 points better in math. According to Peterson, if similar success could be achieved for minority students nationwide, it would close the gap separating Caucasian and African-American students significantly.

Another success story can be found in any elementary school in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, a quiet town south of Nashville that 11 years ago opened all its elementary schools from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., five days a week, 52 weeks a year—at no extra cost to the taxpayers.

Superintendent John Hodge Jones and teacher Becci Bookner led a small band of entrepreneurial educators who had tuned into a phenomenon of family life that most school systems amazingly still ignore: 80 percent of married couples and 70 percent of mothers with young children work outside the home. So schools that open at 8 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. help make a wreck of schedules for most working families. On most afternoons the combination of working parents and closed schools spill into America's streets unsupervised children who do what most unsupervised youngsters have always done: experiment and get into trouble.

But in Murfreesboro it is common to see Dad dropping off fourth-grader Maria on his way to work at 7:30 a.m. and Mom picking fifth-grader Johnny up on her way home from work at 5 p.m. The school's schedule fits the families' needs. This is the way schools, after all, are supposed to operate. University of Chicago professor James Coleman has said, "A school is for the purpose of helping families do things that families don't do as well."

During the extended hours of each school day, Murfreesboro offers art, music, literature, study hall, gifted programs, catch-up programs, counseling and tutoring. A different corps of teachers manages these extra hours. Parents gladly pay the bill—all of it—of about a dollar an hour. No child is turned away because the family can't pay, and 80 percent of Murfreesboro's parents use the extra hours.

Unfortunately, these three schools filled with so much promise have too few imitators. Across America, there are only 500 charter schools like the City on the Hill Charter School in Boston, Only in Milwaukee, Cleveland and parts of Vermont will the state enable middle- and low-income parents to have choices that include private schools. Even though 80 percent of Murfreesboro's parents have shown that there is a massive demand for schools that fit the schedule of parents who work outside the home, most schools still open at 8 a.m. and lock their doors at 3 p.m. and still let children off in the summer to help bring in the crops.

American manufacturing has changed. Health care is changing. The military is restructuring. Yet, too much of American public education seems

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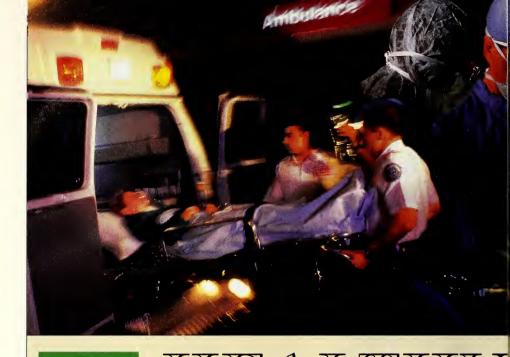
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HERE is a wise old African proverb from the Bassuto tribe that Robert Ruark appropriated for his book on the Mau Mau uprisings of the 1950s: Do not destroy something of value unless you have something

of value to replace it.

That proverb should be a warning signal and guiding principle for those who have set about the delicate task of changing America's health-care system. With all the sound and fury about the state of health care in America, too many politicians, corporate financial officers and academic economists tend to forget the most basic truth about medical care in America: We

By Joseph A.



HORIZONS

have the finest system for treating illnesses and injuries in the world. American physicians, hospitals, research centers and medical schools are the envy of the world. Heads of state and foreigners with the unlimited wealth to pay any price for the best care available flock to the United States when they are sick.

The 1990s have been marked by a headlong rush for efficiency in delivering treatment to sick and injured Americans; recognition by the for-profit sector of the big bucks to be made in taking care of what ails us; determination by the federal government to trim back funds spent on Medicare, Medicaid and other health programs for research and training if that is what it takes to balance the budget; aggressive actions by downsizing corporations to reduce costs of providing health-care benefits

to employees; and increased pressures on pharmaceutical companies to reduce the price of their products even if that means forcing them to cut back on applied research.

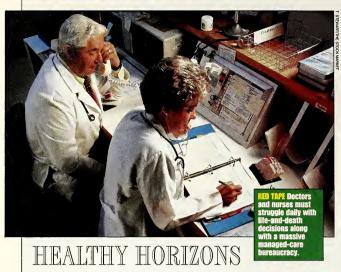
Taken separately, something can be said for variations of each of these trends. Taken together, they threaten he world-class greatness that has characterized America's medical-treatment system for most of this century.

It's time for each of us to look at what made America's health-care system the finest in the world and demand that those who would dramatically restructure it count to 10 before they lose sight of the conditions that made our system great.

What makes America's health-care system great is its ability to attract the finest minds in our society to devote their lives to caring for the ill and to conducting research to attack seemingly intractable medical problems. Also critical to the special quality of care here is the commitment of doctors and nurses to health care as a ministry, not an industry. It wasn't always this way.

At the end of the last century and into the early years of the 20th century, American medicine was crowded with charlatans and hustlers. Doctors were poorly trained. Many medical schools were as wacky in what they taught as a Three Stooges movie. Traveling

Joseph A. Califano Jr. is president of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University and an adjunct professor at Columbia University's Medical School and School of Public Health. He served as U.S. secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, 1977-79.



salesmen hawked potions laced with cocaine that hooked thousands of Midwest housewives who thought they were buying relief for everything from arthritis and menstrual cramps to depression and heart disease.

Then, in 1910, Abraham Flexner exposed the false claims, shoddy curriculum, facilities and faculties of many medical schools. Shocked into action by the public outcry and supported by the good physicians, states passed laws instituting stiff licensing requirements and high standards for doctors and the medical schools that trained them.

About this time, states also enacted statutes severely restricting the practice of medicine to licensed physicians, and

We should recognize that Medicare is a phenomenal success at providing health care to the elderly.

Congress established the Food and Drug Administration and gave it the power to test medications to make certain they were safe and effective before they could be marketed to Americans.

As a result of these actions, the quality of medical education and physicians soared. Doctors whose average 19th century income put them in the lower middle class, rose rapidly in economic and social status in their communities. The words, "my son the doctor," became the prayer and dream of a generation of immigrants. And the best and the brightest men and women were attracted to the medical profession.

Over time, thanks to the system of clearing pharmaceuticals by the FDA. this nation avoided tragedies that beset other countries. In Britain, for example, thousands of children were born deformed as a result of mothers taking thalidomide. We avoided that situation-and others like it-here because of the tough review requirements to which drugs were subjected before they could be prescribed by physicians or sold over the counter. More than any other people in the world, Americans could be confident that the medicine they were given would work and that those medicines would be safe to take.

In the earliest days of the Republic-1789-we established a Public Health Service. At the turn of the 20th century, Congress began expanding the mission of the Public Health Service to include the study of infectious diseases

and control of epidemics. But the role of the national government in public health and biomedical research was marginal up to World War II.

As part of the nation's mobilization for World War II, the federal government made substantial investments in public health, training professionals and medical research. The armed forces needed physicians and nurses, so they drafted all they could get their hands on and trained even more. Medical research was conducted on everything from frostbite to malaria, from venereal disease to surgical and burn procedures. Public health programs were mounted to protect soldiers from sexually transmitted diseases and keep production workers on the home front healthy and strong. Wonder drugs like penicillin, new surgical procedures for wounds and burns and prosthetic devices to replace lost limbs were developed.

At the end of the war, the military research effort was transferred to the National Institutes of Health. In the postwar years, these institutes became the central workhorse for basic biomedical research. Sparked by the bipartisan commitment of Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon, who declared billion-dollar-a-year wars on cancer and cardiovascular disease, the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute became the finest basic biomedical research operation in the world. The brightest scientists in the United States and many foreign nations competed either to work there or to receive grants to work at research centers throughout the nation.

In the 1940s and 1950s most large corporations started including health insurance coverage as part of their basic wage and benefits package, and the government built half a million hospital beds. In the 1960s, with President Johnson calling upon Americans to create a Great Society, Congress passed Medicare to provide physician and hospital care for all citizens 65 and older and Medicaid to provide such care to the poor and nursing home care to the elderly who needed it. Congress enacted heart, cancer and stroke legislation and American citizens no longer had to travel to New York or Boston for the finest health care. It would now be available in world-class medical centers across the country, from Seattle to Miami, Los Angeles and Houston to Philadelphia, New Orleans and Chica-

It is imperative that the actions we Please turn to page 88



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From Mean Streets

Working with local law officers, citizens take back their neighborhoods from violent thugs and dope dealers.

By Gurney Williams III

N the night he saw a silent gunman with a sawed-off shotgun outside of his home, John Hyde, 35, decided to enlist in the war on crime.

Within weeks of that upsetting encounter, Hyde had joined at least 16 million other American civilians—more than 10 times the number in all of the U.S. armed forces—who are battling crime, neighborhood by neighborhood, and winning. The ranks of

the range of 30 to 40 peranti-crime volunteers have doubled since the mid-1980s,

anti-crime volunteers have doubled since the mid-1980s, according to Matt Peskin, executive director of the National Association of Town Watch, based in Wynnewood,

Pennsylvania. The association, founded in the early '80s, has become a loose confederation of some 20,000 local anti-crime groups across the country. And the modern-day Minutemen and women are making a difference, Peskin says, particularly against property crimes. Wherever a group has been operating for 18 months or more, burglaries, vandalism and thefts go down in

The unarmed crimefighters often use unconventional weapons and techniques that throw

crooks off-balance. In Philadelphia, patrols of inline skaters with flashlights and walkie-talkies weave smoothly through an inner-city neighborhood, watching for suspicious activities. In Dayton, Ohio, residents pushed for a radical plan to put up a maze-like system of barricades throughout their neighborhood to block getaway routes for drug-dealers. An anti-crime coali-

to Glean Streets





JOHN HYDE AND DIANE KAVALSKI They make a difference at a mobile home park in Tukwila, Washington, where crime incidents have dropped to zero.

tion near Houston has taught residents of all ages how to memorize what strangers look like so even young children can provide a full description to police. Often, residents reach out to each other and join such groups after serious crime strikes near home. Again and again, a strong community connection has healed the trauma.

Hyde's trauma began when the

Writer Gurney Williams III took a walk on the wild-to-mild side to report on how citizens are fighting crime. A frequent contributor to this magazine, Williams resides in Rye. New York.



I<mark>ONTLINES</mark> New York City police round up suspected drug traffickers in a once-elegant eighborhood of brownstones that has become a crum<u>bling drug zone</u>.



armed stranger showed up outside his front door in March 1995. A journeyman glassmaker and an Air Force veteran, he had gotten home from work well after midnight and wanted a cigarette. He stepped outside silently, careful not to wake his wife and three kids asleep at the other end of their threebedroom trailer in Tukwila, Washington. Only then did he see the gunman. wearing a white T-shirt and jeans, standing like a statue with his back to Hyde, no more than 10 feet away.

Hyde backed up through his front door and locked it behind him. "I didn't know if he was a psychotic guy just looking for someone to kill," Hyde says. "I was praying he wasn't going to try to come into the trailer." He dialed 911, raised his head to the level of a small window, and began whispering to police. He told them that another man had appeared and was struggling to grab the shotgun. It swung wildly between the men like a black tree branch in a wind storm.

"Oh God, it's pointed at me," Hyde told the police. He sank to the floor to stay as low as possible, keeping a stuffed chair between him and the wooden walls of his trailer for extra protection. He didn't dare get up until he heard the voices of the police out on nearby 140th Street. He watched as they arrested the gunman. Hyde learned later that the suspect thought his girlfriend was having an affair in the trailer next to Hyde's.

Another resident of the same Southgate Mobile Home Park, Diane Kavalski, 41, says that gunfire erupted









regularly that spring and terrified her children. "They said, 'We're gonna get killed here,'" Kavalski says. "I told them it was up to us to stop it, to make a difference." She and her oldest son Jason distributed notices of a neighborhood meeting and reserved a room at a local restaurant, The 21 Club.

There, the residents picked at muffins and cookies and griped about the police. "No one was talking about what we could do," Hyde says. "I got tired of hearing it." He stood up and spoke over the grumbling.

"We can complain about the police for the rest of our lives," he said, "but it won't protect our families. What are we going to do about that?" He remembers that no one said anything for 15 or 20 seconds. It felt like five minutes,

Neighborhood watch groups
are likely to succeed in stable communities
where churches, police and local
merchants combine forces with residents.

Kavalski recalls. "Everyone was terrified," she says. Finally she spoke up.

"This is our home," she said. "Let's get off our butts and get to work."

In subsequent days, someone found a couple of old and dead hand-held CB radios at his office. Resident Ralph Woodford, who knew the burned-out parts. By

June, teams of two to four residents were patrolling nightly, armed only with the CBs.

Éarly strategies didn't work. At first the patrols tried to call in police while drug deals were underway. They soon learned that dealers came and went with the speed of stealth bombers, in sec-

onds. Police could never respond fast en ough. So the volunteers shifted to taking down license plate numbers of any visit-

ing vehicles. Dealers quickly caught on that the climate for crime had changed for the worse.

Today, Kavalski reports, the climate for kids has become downright homey. "They can go outside and play," she says. They no longer find discarded drug paraphernalia in play areas. And after summer barbecues outside, "You can hear a pin drop at night." Hyde says police "case reports" on the community—a measure of crime incidents—have dropped from a high of 38 in March 1995, to zero. "I never thought we'd see that day," he says.

The heroes who win such victories are unaccustomed to playing David against criminal Goliaths. And police

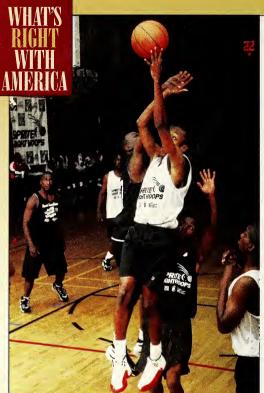
are sometimes skeptical at first that the raw, unarmed volunteers will have any effect on the giant problems cops confront

Rick K. Short, 29, of Philadelphia, didn't exactly bowl over police in the city's 9th District when he showed up in June 1995 wearing a red shirt, black pants wrapped with reflective tape and a pair of inline skates. He flashed a picture of fellow members of his skating club to any cops who would look. "What can we do for you guys?" he asked.

Short acknowledges that in addition to wanting to form a neighborhood watch group to fight crime, his club was also trying to correct an image problem. Local politicians were considering banning inline skating. "I figured I had to do something," Short says.

While most officers saw him as a curiosity, he impressed community Please turn to page 102





NIGHT MOVES Late-evening basketball in Los Angeles keeps young men busy.

Where Hoops and Dreams Thrive

There are alternatives to life on the streets for at-risk kids in our big cities.

By Phyllis Zauner

T was a bad-news day for Los Angeles. An unpopular verdict in the case of the Rodney King battering had enflamed the city's southeast. Riots broke out. Reporters swarmed to record the violence.

But one TV reporter saw more than violence. Wendy Walsh saw despair that needed repair. "In a strange way the riots may have done something good," she says. "It gave me a motive for action." The action embarked on by Walsh and a few of her friends—mostly models and actresses—was to organize City Camp, a multiracial day camp whose aim is to expose inner-city kids to activities and places to which they would otherwise not be privy—and more than that, to provide mentors.

Twice each month a bus takes 24 kids day-tripping, Sometimes it's a beach party, maybe a mountain snow trip or a chance to watch a recording session. Walsh says the kids are mostly sixthgraders, "It's an impressionable age. They're leaving elementary school for iunior high where there's a lot of peer pressure. They're highly at risk.

Walsh hopes each of her volunteers will bond with a child, forging a relationship that lasts a lifetime. "These kids are so eager in spite of hardships they've endured," she says. "When I asked one girl what she wants to be when she grows up she said a 'mortician.' That's all she

sees, all she knows."

So...are American cities in trouble? You'll believe it if you watch the evening news.

Yet, something else is going on behind the scenes—individual acts of caring, programs organized to change neighborhood bad news to good news.

Often sports action is the

The big attraction in southcentral Los Angeles is Night Hoops—late night basketball games. Jim Houston, a former USC football player who's the director, calls it a form of crime prevention. "For kids who hang out on street corners—we call it 'getting stale'—basketball can rejuvenate them. They get uniforms, play on a team they're proud of."

Twice a week 18 teams play off, the last game starting at midnight. There are rules: no gang attire, no colors (Crips blue, Bloods red), no weapons, no narcotics, no fighting. Also, says Houston, "If you don't go to school and have grades, you can't play basketball here."

In Detroit another outlet for at-risk youths is the Police Athletic League (PAL) sports center, a national program created as an alternative to idleness. All activities involve police officers as positive role models. Detroit's football program is the biggest in PAL, with 2,000 kids

Almost as popular in Detroit is baseball, with 1,300 boys and girls on 126 teams, coached by 100 officers and volunteers who are showing them how to win on the diamond and how to win in life.

playing in three age divisions.

Perhaps no organization has had more impact on children's lives than Boys & Girls Clubs, a national network of 2.4 million youths, 6 to 18, primarily from disadvantaged circumstances.

But talking in figures of millions tends to cloud the important fact that each of those 2.4 million young people can tell a story of a life that was changed.

Take Nivia Curry. At 13 she was a member of a Brooklyn gang, making a living as a cop lookout for drug dealers. She was tough because she had to be to survive the daily drive-by shootings. "One day my best

Please turn to page 114

While her three-point percentage might not be so hot, Phyllis Zauner, a freelance writer from Sonoma, California, scores big points when writing about social trends around the United States.

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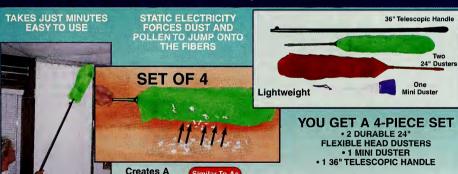
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GOING LIVE

Continued from page 34

managers manipulating the campaigns of their candidates and the spin reporting and photo opportunities. The photo op with television has become the nature of the report. There are very few serious discussions of the issues on daily television broadcasts. The sound bites of the candidates in this last (presidential) election averaged something like nine seconds. Well, that's ridiculous. You can't have a complete sentence with a noun, verb, adjective and adverb in nine seconds. Relying on sound bites is no way to conduct a political campaign. We are dealing in personalities rather than issues.

Q. During the late 1960s, Robert F. Kennedy asked you to consider running for the Senate. Did you ever seriously consider that proposal or any other proposal to seek political office?

A. Never seriously at all. I didn't believe in it then, and I don't now, that any person who makes their fame with news dissemination on television should cash in on it in a political sense. To do so would indicate to the public that I, perhaps all news anchors, are shady and using their position to shape a personal political agenda. That would be a heavy burden for any anchorperson to carry.

Q. You were critical of the restricted access imposed on the media during military operations in Grenada and Panama. You said censorship should only come into play when dealing with strategy, tactics and so forth. Do you believe that cameras should be on the front lines?

A I believe that cameras should definitely be on the front lines, but they shouldn't be transmitting live. I believe in military censorship in times of war only. I am very much against any kind of civilian censorship. But in a wartime situation, obviously, it seems to me that you must keep secret the movement of your troops, the size of your forces, the losses you are taking, the equipment you are committing to battle. These things are necessary military secrets.

But at the same time we must permit the free press to record what is going on behind our lines, and what is going on in our front lines for eventual release so as to not endanger military operations. It doesn't matter much whether it is released today, tomorrow or a week or month later-perhaps even longer if necessary. They are a part of our history and they belong to us, the American people. They do not belong to the military. But we have to acknowledge the need for military censorship. And I doubt very seriously that my colleagues at the head of network news departments who plead to have the right to have live cameras on the battlefield are right. I think they are wrong. We should have cameras there to record the scene and get it released as soon as possible. That's the way it worked in World War II, and it was quite successful.

U. How does our changing culture shape the way the news is reported? Well, as the culture changes it is A. part of the media's duty to report on those changes. The cultural changes are a very subtle thing, and we don't know whether a fad is an actual cultural change or just that, a fad. We have seen some startling changes in popular literature in the last few years in the use of profanity and the freedom that writers have and feel they need. This is a major cultural change that has crept up on us. It is hard to report because it doesn't have a beginning or an end. It occurs by osmosis, and that is very difficult to report.

Q. For years and even to this day, some media experts contend that print journalism is doomed, that one day in the future we will get all of our information from electronic sources rather than print. Do you agree?

A. I think as a member of the generation that depended mostly on print, I find it very hard to believe that the electronic media, even including the printed forum on your computer that the Internet provides, would be adequate.

But that way of thinking might be old-fashioned. I think anybody who predicts the public would be desperately less informed if newspapers disappeared is probably making a dangerous prediction.

Q. While at CBS, you worked on an ongoing series called, Can the World Be Saved? You say you are most proud of this series. Do you think the series had any impact on the environmental movement and raising public awareness about pollution and other threats?

A. We were on the cutting edge of the whole decade of the environment. We at *CBS Evening News* picked up

fairly soon the whole tenor of what would become the movement and cause all of us to think about the need to clean up our environment so that other species might continue to exist. That all came to us there in the 1960s, following publication of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*. I am proud to say that I think we were the first major news organization to pick up on it with a regular series.

The series was regular for three-tofour years. The frequency of the pieces we did diminished over the years, but we were doing them until my retirement in 1981.

Q. At the end of your newscasts, you signed off with the line, "And that's the way it is." Did you coin this phrase?

A. Yes. When we went to a half hour evening news broadcast, I had the concept that I would be able to end the news with a little 20-second feature story, the kind that I always enjoyed so much producing for the United Press. The irony of fate story, the little two-paragraph-item like the "man bites dog" kind of story. I thought I would have time for those, and I thought if I have time for those then I might as well have a kind of a sign-off line.

I was aware of the fact that so many broadcasters had sign-off lines by which they became famous: Lowell Thomas was "So long until tomorrow," Edward R. Murrow's "Good night and good luck"-that sort of thing. So I thought "Why shouldn't I have one?" And I tried to find one that would work with any type of feature story, whether it be tragic or sad or funny or what. I thought "That's the way it is" would work. I could say it almost any way: "That's the way it is," in a quizzical fashion for some strange story, or sadly as "That's the way it is" with too much pathos, so I just developed it and I used it.

Dick Salant, who was the president for CBS at the time, was a stickler for standards and form, and he thought it was terrible. He tried to talk me out of it, but the old stubborn Dutchman that I am stood firm. Well, by the time we argued it out the line had already become popular. Within a few weeks, it seemed that people were using it.

Q. Following your quadruple bypass surgery in March, how is your health today?

A. I'm doing just fine, thank you for asking. I just came back from the tennis court [for this interview]. And I'm going back to the tennis court later this afternoon.

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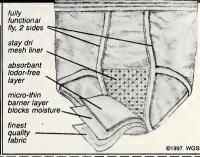
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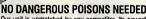
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QUIET HEROES

Volunteers roll up their sleeves to help their neighbors in a variety of ways. This selfless service is what makes America unique among nations.

By Elizabeth Hanford Dole

had the opportunity to see firsthand the good work done by volunteers. As Secretary of Transportation and as Secretary of Labor, I saw over-

whelming examples of people volunteering to help others in need. These volunteers give us reasons to believe in humanity. They unselfishly give of themselves to help their

neighbors, friends and, many times, strangers.

I became president of the American Red Cross six years ago, and I cannot tell you how many times since people have approached me to say how a Red Cross volunteer changed their lives—how food, shelter and caring restored hope to victims of disaster in dire times; or how blood from a volunteer donor—or the CPR training taught by a volunteer—saved a loved one.

When TWA Flight 800 exploded off

Elizabeth Hanford Dole is president of the American Red Cross in Washington, D.C. She's a former U.S. secretary of both Transportation and Labor. the coast of Long Island, Red Cross volunteers raced to the TWA terminal as rapidly as friends and family of the passengers. And as the Coast Guard and police launched rescue boats into the pitch-dark sea, more Red Cross workers rushed to the recovery site. The Red Cross disaster operation that began that night stretched over 27 days and embraced the loved ones of the 230 crash victims and recovery personnel. In all, 478 mental-health professionals volunteered their time and counseled the grief-stricken families of victims as well as military, fire and police recovery workers, coroner's staff and airline

And in April, when the Red River



spilled from its banks and flooded communities in North Dakota and Minnesota, our people were immediately on the scene. Our volunteers provided meals to victims and relief workers, coordinated temporary housing for evacuees and counseled families whose lives had been dramatically altered. I personally witnessed the devastation wrought by this disaster and met with many of the evacuees at a



temporary housing center set up at Grand Forks Air Force Base.

The Gift of Life

In this past year alone, 4 million people voluntarily took an hour out of their busy schedules to donate bloodfor someone they likely will never know. Connie Sessoms Jr., who operates a trucking business in Charlotte, North Carolina, is one of those regular donors. He participates in a relatively new Red Cross program designed to closely match donors with people who need blood regularly due to an ongoing illness. Sessoms, an African American, is paired with an African-American child who needs a pint of blood every two weeks to control her sickle-cell anemia, a disease more common among people of African descent. His and the child's blood match so closely that she builds little resistance to Sessoms' blood, and the transfusions last longer. To ensure an adequate blood supply for this young patient, Sessoms and another closely matched donor donate every 56 days. Although it is not always convenient, Sessoms says it is

You Can Make a Difference

N A world devoid of volunteers, a child camps alone in the woods, a victim of spousal abuse has no one to call, and a disabled elderly man listens to his stomach growl as he peers into an empty pantry.

Luckily, our collective conscience will not allow an untrained child to trek solo into the forest, tolerate an abused spouse having no recourse nor acquiesce to a home-bound senior citizen starving. An increasing civic sense of obligation to the less fortunate has led to the creation of dozens of earnest organizations whose bottom line is people. These "Fortune 500" companies are not listed on Wall Street. They're operating near or in your hometown, and they need people like you to carry out their work.

So whether you're skilled at tying a bowline knot, counseling, fundraising or just have the time to help others, here is a list of volunteer organizations awaiting your call: The Salvation Army was founded in 1865 by William Booth. This international organization is present in more than 100 countries with 140,000 centers providing social, medical, educational and other community services. Call or write: The Salvation Army, 615 Slaters Lane, P.O. Box 269, Alexandria, VA 22313; (703)

Please turn to page 82



THIS NEW HOUSE Former President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, help build homes for low-income citizens.

684-5500; or check your phone book for the center in your area.

Habitat for Humanity's founder, Millard Fuller, received a major publicity boost when Jimmy and Rosalvnn Carter joined his organization. President Carter noted that the feeling was reciprocal: "I get a lot more recognition for building houses in partnership with people than I ever got for the Camp David Accord...." Volunteers build houses for the poor, and the recipients work side-by-side with them to construct their new residence. For more information, call or write them at: 121 Habitat Street. Americus, GA 31709-3498; (912) 924-6935.

Meals on Wheels provides meals for those who are unable to leave their homes. Volunteers deliver hot meals, but just as important, provide homebound individuals a link to the outside world. Drivers can deliver food once a week, every other week, or once a month. To volunteer contact: The National Association of Meals Program, 1414 Prince Street, Suite 202, Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 548-5558; or call the Meals on Wheels office in your neighborhood.

YMCA/YWCA seeks to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities. There are 2,100 locations around the country serving 14.8 million members. Ys offer a multitude of sports, teen clubs, tutoring, after-school programs, substance abuse classes and, at many locations, a place to live. Call or write to: YMCA of the USA, 101 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606; (800) USA-YMCA; or call your neighborhood Y.

Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children provides free medical care to children with orthopedic problems, spinal cord injuries or serious burns at 22 locations (19 hospitals, three burn units) around the country. Admission to the hospital is based on medical and financial need, as well as age (infancy to 18). The program is supported in part by The Shrine of North America. For more information: International Shrine Headquarters, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, FL 33607-1435; (813) 281-0300.

Boy Scouts of America has instilled the value of "do a good turn daily" into many of America's youth. Scouting uses the lure of outdoor adventure to teach its members virtues and build their confidence and selfesteem. Young women can particiopate in the coed program of Exploring. For more information, call or write: Boy Scouts of America, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 15079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; (972) 580-2000 or call the Boy Scout Council office in your area.

VA Voluntary Service is the Please turn to page 104 more than worth it to know that he is helping.

Reserve of Talents

Red Cross volunteers come from all walks of life. They're all ages. They all have something special to offer. And they come to the Red Cross for one reason: to serve their neighbors locally, nationally and globally. Sead Bekric came to the United States in 1993 from Bosnia after suffering serious injuries in a mortar attack on his school in Srebrenica.

Sead, now 19, volunteers at the Orange County Chapter in Santa Ana. California, for the youth services and international services programs. He has personal experience with the international tracing program, which helps people locate their families during conflict and disaster situations. Some members of his family were traced through this program, though he's still

searching for his father.

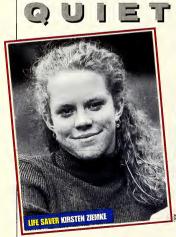
Aaron Smith of our Lakeland Chapter in Wisconsin is 18. Aaron, an Eagle Scout, for the last two years has volunteered 20 hours weekly as an emergency communications technician for Armed Forces Emergency Services. The Red Cross processes 4,000 emergency communications every day between Americans and their family members in the armed forces. Aaron also instructs the Red Cross Basic Aid Training course, which introduces children in fourth grade to safety information and first-aid procedures for breathing difficulties, bleeding, poisoning, burns, shock and other emergencies. In

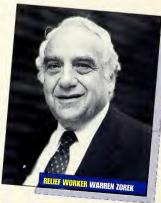
June 1996, he was recognized for his community service and chosen to carry the Olympic torch through

Milwaukee.

Toward the other end of the age spectrum is Warren Zorek whose fond memories of the Red Cross date to his childhood during World War II. The organization provided the only means for him to correspond with his parents just before they were sent to a German concentration camp. Zorek was sent to England by his parents before they were imprisoned, but the rest of his family, immediate and extended, perished in the Holocaust. Zorek says this influenced him to help others in need and led to his 39-year commitment to the Red Cross as a volunteer. As the Red Cross Volunteer Disaster Chairman of Metropolitan New York, he can attest that the Red Cross responds to an

Please turn to page 105









Harvesters

America's farmers go against the grain of logic and global agriculture. Yet, this small group feeds most of the world.

By Jeff Swiatek

OW does American agriculture do it? How does 2 percent of our population manage to feed the rest of us, at a cost cheaper than any other nation? How do our leftovers also supply 70 percent of the world's traded corn and soybeans, plus generous portions of other vital farm goods needed by foreign buyers to feed their own people?

And how is it that American farmers, toiling at the most primitive of trades, have chalked up sevenfold productivity gains since World War II, a rate far better than nonfarm labor?



of Hope



These are questions I run up against as an agriculture reporter in the Corn Belt city of Indianapolis, where farmfields lap up to outlying suburbs and much of the urban sprawl, from shopping malls to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, sits atop old farms. Explaing America's agricultural might involves delving into reasons tangible and intangible. The answers go a long way toward telling a great American success story.

Let's start with three quite tangible reasons the United States is a food basket for the world: land, stuff and people.

Take the land first. From coast to coast, America's land is unequaled for farming. Smack in the middle of the country sits the largest area in the world sporting level ground, good soils, temperate climate and generous rain.

The Midwest supplies the nation's-

and much of the world's—yearly needs for the staples of corn, soybeans, wheat and hogs. And not only are Midwestern conditions right for growing grain, but the region couldn't be better situated. The Mississippi River and its tributaries and the adjacent Great Lakes allow the grain to flow out and inputs like fertilizer to flow in.

The rest of the country's farmland represents side dishes to the main course. The South handles warm-weather crops, such as cotton, rice, peanuts and citrus fruit. The West contains vast rangelands for cheaply raising cattle and other livestock. And California, with the help of irrigation, has turned its interior into the nation's salad bar, supplying vegetables, fruits and nuts with a nearly year-round growing season.

Take this bountiful land and add a century or two of laboriously built-up

infrastructure—all of the structural stuff that any industry needs to function. Consider some of it:

- A transportation system, from the miple Mason jar (invented in 1858 and still a canning staple) to modern river barges, which can hold the output of 400 acres of corn and float a load from Louisville to New Orleans in two weeks.
- A storage system, from country elevators that dot much of the nation like gas stations, to hulking, portside grain terminals.
 - · A financial system, from small

Jeff Swiatek is an agriculture reporter for The Indianapolis Star and The Indianapolis News. He resides in Indianapolis, Indiana, with his wife, two sons and a small, but productive, vegetable patch.



Harvesters of Hope

rural banks to big institutional lenders, supplying the billions of dollars needed by a capital-intensive business, where a tractor costs as much as a new threebedroom house.

· A pricing system, from the Chicago Board of Trade to the smallest feed-

lot, that gives ready, worldwide markets to commodities from soybean oil to pork bel-

This infrastructure for agricultural products is a "true miracle," says R.L. Kohls, retired dean of agriculture at Purdue University. "The coordination of all of these businesses needed to produce and distribute all the food and fiber products into the hands of consumers is the achievement of our economic system."

Then there are the people who produce the foodnamely, farm families. In America, unlike many other nations, families have proven the naturally best way to farm. I have watched visitors from Russia tour Midwestern grain farms and stand amazed that one family can till more than 1,000 acres, own a barnfull of equipment and live in a house handed down from several generations of family who did the same thing before them.

Well over 90 percent of U.S. farms are family operations, a figure that has hardly budged in decades despite an impression that corporate farming is taking over.

YOU SAY POTATO Jeff Raybould, an Idaho farmer with 800 acres, says farmers evolve and ultimately help one another become more productive. DEERE

In fact, writes Ohio author and farmer Gene Logsdon in his 1994 book. At Nature's Pace, American families are as attracted to farming as ever. "The family farm is not dead and Far from continuing to decrease, farms and farmers are on the increase. The real action (in American farming) is going to occur in the comparatively small-scale food production systems now sprouting up everywhere.

To gain a few more thoughts about family farmers, I called one, Ronnie Mohr is an Indianapolis-area farmer whose grain and hog farm I once wrote about over the course of an entire growing season. He was reached by telephone in Florida, mixing business with pleasure while his two boys tended the farm in the off-season. The boys and a daughter all live within a half-mile of Ronnie and his wife, Sarah.

"Farming," says Mohr, "is one place where you can still have a family business. You have fairly high-skilled people willing to work long, long hours at a reasonable risk, and the reward is not all monetary."

It's worth noting that Mohr sees no lack of interest by people who want to live off the land. "There's all sorts of guys who grew up on the edge of farming who would give their souls, basically, to get into farming."

So the answers are falling into place. But the land and people and the stuff needed to make agriculture work are just the obvious explanations.

It's time to talk about the

three intangibles that make American agriculture thrive. For starters, there's that good old spirit of cooperation.

Agriculture in America was built on sharing-from tools to labor to know-how. Early on, this cooperation

got the forests cleared and roads built. Today, cooperation among those in agriculture arguably runs stronger than in any other industry.

Cooperatives, which rose in popularity in the 1930s, still account for much of the seed, feed, fertilizer and fuel bought and sold off U.S. farms.

And they're growing, especially in the Upper Midwest, where billions of dollars of agricultural co-op projects have been built in the 1990s, from a

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HEALTHY HORIZONS

Continued from page 68

take to deal with our concerns about the high cost of medical care not destroy the finest health system in the world. It is important to deliver medical diagnosis and treatment at the lowest possible cost. But we must not let our infatuation with managed-care organizations—using the profit motive to make treatment more efficient, downsizing corporations and cutting federal and state budgets—destroy what is good in American health care. For at its best, medical treatment in the United States has no peer.

Managed-care plans are double-edged swords. The smooth edge can cut costs in the delivery of treatment. But the jagged edge can increase bureaucracy and tear at quality, trust and the human touch that have been the defining marks of American health care. Due largely to managed care, in 1997 Americans will spend \$200 billion for the paperwork of submitting, reviewing, approving, billing and paying claims. Doctors and nurses must now be masters of the universe of bu-

reaucratic haggling and manipulation as well as masters of medicine.

The pressure for efficiency also leaves physicians little time to talk to patients. If a managed-care physician has 15 minutes to see a patient, what happens at the end of an exam when the patient says to him that her husband is beating her or someone tells him that he's impotent. Medical advice at that point does not fit into a few minutes. We should insist that in the quest for efficiency, we pay doctors for the time they spend talking to patients.

Patients, doctors, employers and insurers can all take steps to avert the danger of a decline of quality and trust between doctors and patients. If your doctor doesn't have time to talk to you, fire him and get one who will. Doctors should resist attempts to put profits above patients and efforts to interfere with the doctor-patient relationship or the exercise of their best medical judgment. Employers should provide avenues through which their employees and retirees can complain about reductions in quality of care.

As citizens, we should also keep close tabs on the politicians who want to cut investments in basic biomedical research and support for medical education. We didn't get so many of our

best minds into research on cardiovascular disease, cancer, arthritis and AIDS by waving a magic wand. They were attracted by the national, bipartisan commitment to support basic biomedical research and our willingness to recognize the importance of providing reasonable profits to pharmaceutical companies to encourage their investment in applied research to produce, distribute and educate the medical professions about miracle drugs, diagnostic procedures and medical devices.

We should recognize that Medicare is a phenomenal success at providing health care to elderly Americans. There

Medicine is a sacred ministry, not an industry. Touching will always be a part of healing.

is room for improvement and efficiencies. We can take steps to encourage older Americans to take better care of themselves. For example, Medicare provides free flu vaccinations. Less than 40 percent of eligible individuals take advantage of this Medicare benefit. Why not require those who become ill because they failed to get a flu shot pay the medical expenses for their treatment? Since Medicare beneficiaries who smoke need more medical care than those who don't, why not charge the smokers higher premiums? It might encourage them to quit. It makes more sense to take actions to encourage the elderly to take better care of themselves than to cut the benefits available to them when they get sick.

Most importantly, let each of us insist that our politicians, corporate executives and for-profit health companies accept and act on these fundamental truths: Medicine is a sacred ministry, not an industry. Touching will always be a part of healing. The highest calling of doctors and nurses is to protect and preserve life, heal the sick and comfort the dying. Each of us has a responsibility to pursue healthy lifestyles. If all the actors in the system of American health care live by these basic values, then we can be certain that our grandchildren will live in a nation whose medical treatment remains the envy of the rest of the world.

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STOPPING THE HATE

Continued from page 45

racially motivated violence will not be tolerated, and that, in the words of National Urban League Senior Vice President Mildred E. Love, "An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

In addition, the Urban League, the ADL and The National Council of La Raza have collaborated to fight bigotry across racial, ethnic and religious lines. One of the major facets of their efforts is to "monitor the actions of public figures, holding them accountable when they contribute to a climate that fosters bias, bigotry and racism." In addition, they have outlined a six-point plan of action which culminates in a proposed Presidential Summit on American Pluralism in the 21st Century.

By making leaders accountable for their actions, these groups hope to integrate a bottom-up strategy of repairing damage done by hate criminals with a top-down strategy of preventing messages of hate from poisoning the well of public discourse.

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recently was the role of Swiss and Argentine banks in hoarding gold and other valuables stolen by the Nazis from Jews during World War II. Because it is the plunder of an undoubtedly wicked and unjust war for racial dominance, the way in which this money is dealt with will determine how far the world has come in terms of stamping out the vestiges of the philosophy of racial superiority.

Neal M. Sher, a Washington lawyer who formerly served as chief prosecutor against Nazi war criminals, is involved in reconciling some of the issues involved in the return of money to Holocaust survivors-specifically the role of American law firms who have agreed to represent the banks. In a letter to Robert Rifkind, a partner in the New York law firm Cravath, Swaine & Moore, Sher urged the firm to "contribute fees earned from this representation to the Humanitarian Fund...to benefit needy Holocaust survivors." He further emphasized that, "under the circumstances, it strikes me as the right thing to do." Certainly no one should profit from the genocide of millions of innocent people and the pillage of their belongings.

People such as Mfume and Sher and organizations such as La Raza, the ADL and the Urban League should be commended for taking on some of the toughest racial and ethical dilemmas of our time. They can serve as models for all Americans. But as much as these organizations do to advance racial harmony, their efforts will pale in comparison to what can be done if individuals take on the responsibility themselves to prevent stereotypes from developing into hostilities and ultimately crimes of hate.

We must do all that we can to eradicate this blight of bigotry.

To a large extent, this is just a matter of eradicating the words associated with racial division. In my life I have made every attempt to avoid hearing or uttering anything that even hints of racial stereotyping. All my friends know that I do not tolerate this lan-

It has been several years since I have heard any type of racial slur uttered in my presence. The German philosopher Kierkegaard is credited with the saying that the "fundamental choice" in everyone's life is not the "choice between good and evil, but the choice by which we bring good and evil into existence for ourselves." That is to say, we can remove racism from our lives by simply making the choice not to invoke it.

Above all, this requires faith in God. Faith in God leads to a courage in one's self to be all that one can be. And the focus on self improvement leads to a belief in helping others to improve themselves.

For example, Rev. Robert Schuller, an internationally known pastor who was instrumental in calming the tensions in Israel after the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin last year, has had an integral role in preparing America for reconciliation and healing. More recently, he worked with President Clinton to set the White House on more solid spiritual footing-a Sisyphean task it seems-by encouraging the president to assume the role of "repairer of the breach" in America. Rev. Schuller seems to be helping the president repair the breach between himself and many American Christians who felt excluded from his agenda during the first term of Clinton's presidency.

There are ample examples of people working together to remove the invisible veils that have prevented many of us from seeing beyond another's skin. One of the biggest challenges that remains is to be able to weave people of all different colors and creeds into the beautiful tapestry of American life. We must have the courage to see ourselves, not in terms of our colors, but on the basis of our contributions to this country.

To do this, there must be a reinvigoration of education so that people across the spectrum enjoy the same chances to succeed. There must be equal protection under the law so that criminals of all ilks are justly punished to allow a safer and fear-free society to flourish.

And if anyone discriminates against a person based on his or her skin color or ethnic origin, then that individual should be punished to the full extent of the law.

Fairness. Decency. Respect for others. Faith in God. Taking responsibility for the outcome of one's life. The bottom line is that God makes all of us equal, but disequilibrium occurs when we make different choices in our lives. In the interest of equality then, personal responsibility is paramount. All these things are essential ingredients in the quest to prevent hatred and bigotry from making slaves of free men. Moreover, eradicating racial differences can only happen when a generation of Americans becomes firmly convinced that race truly doesn't matter. If we believe that we are still the best nation in the world, then we have no choice but to face the challenge.

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565th 574th SAW Bns #16270 574th/565th SAW Bns #16115 579th 36j Depot Co (WWII) #18587 586th AAA AW Bn, B Bry (WWII) #21787 586th AAA AW Bn, B Bry (WWII) #22783 610th DAM Bn (KWIII) #22723 610th D074 Ammo Co #10566 611th DBAM Bn (ETD, WWII) #10257 626th DM Refrig Mob (Ger, 45-49) #22125 632nd TD Bn, ECO CO #15615 632nd TD Bn, ECO CO #15615 633rd TD Bn, CO B (Railroad Locomotive Engr, 52-54) #23667

736th Tank Bn (M) Sp (WWII) #10679 759th MP Bn, A/B/C/O/Hq Cos (WWII-now) #10728 761st MP, B Co (AK, 43-46) #18993 770th FA Bn #11343 785th AAA Bn, C Btry #14087

788h MP Bn, ⁷0 Cn (WWII) #11068 811th T0 Bn #10010 813th Engr Ann Bn #23647 828h T1 Ds (WWIII) #11093 853rd Engr Bn (Bst, WWIII) #16556 864th Engr Ann Bn (WWIII) #16550 864th T0 Bn Veth Asan #20992 905th Engr Ann Bn (WWIII) #15850 915th Med Ann Co #10293 979th FA Bn, Serv Btry #18941 988h Sig Corps, De Bn (CBI) #11409 1057th Engr PC&R Grp #20833 1252nd Engr (C) Bn (WWIII) #15484 1268th Engr (C) Bn, A Co (WWIII) #10434

130301 veil coinst eigis, med uet (alpan, wwin) #14181
1884th Engr Avn Bn (WWII) #23240
3197th Sig Serv Co, Team E #23240
3197th Sig Serv Co (Rome, 44-47) #19845
3483rd Ort MAIN Co (WWII) #16057
9766th Heş Grij (51-53) #1353
Americal Div, 23rd Inf Rgt (WWII, Korea, VN) #15026

AMSS, Faculty & Staff, MC & MSC #14206 ASA: 8608th AAU Fld Sta, 116th Signal (Scheyern, Ger) #15272 Camp Allanta (NE, WWII) #12650 Camp Crowder Oav (40-50s) #1914B

Camp Crowder Uay (40-305) #19148
Camps Beauregard LA: Livingston/Claiborne
(WWI) #15221
Chinon Depot: HQ/A/B Cos/60th Sta Hosp/550th
Amb Co/83rd/335 Engrs #23209

Constabulary Veterans of America #21555 Elate, New Hebrides III Island Command #14183 Gen Eng District Hq (GENED, Manila, 45-46) #12085 Inf Scout Dog Trng Class (Summer 45) #19721

Inf Scout Dog Trng Class (Summer 45) #19721 Ludendorff Bridge Capture #23352 NVPA (Mil Vehicles) WWII #18942 OCS Class 33, TIS (FI Benning) #14079 Radio Cadets (Hoffman Island) #14357 Spectre Assn (16th SOS, AC-130 gunships) #18778

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NAVY

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V-12 Prgm: U ot Louisville #22994

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VAW-13 #22704

VB/VPB-108 #18793

VC-41 Sq #21138

VO Assn #20396

VRF-1 #21310

VC-25 & VM8-98 #11258

VF-213, "Black Lions" #13953

VB-22 Sq (40s-60s) #18291

VS-40 (San Julian, Cuba) #19215

VT-305/V8-305 (PTD, WWII) #11584

VPB-21 (Dog 1 Pilots, Crew, 45) #10549

VPB-34 "Black Cats" Assn (WWII) #10130

51st Ftr Grp Assn (WWII) #10947 92nd Bomb Grp, 407th 8omb Sq (Eng) #14268 93rd Bomb Wing, 330th 8omb Sq #15129 301st ASG (CRI) #15079 334th Sig Wing Co #16938 342nd Air Serv Sa #12411 365th Ftr Grn 84th Serv Grn 99th Serv Sn (WWII) #21506 458th Air Serv Sq (Aldermaston, WWII) #19802 463rd 8omb Grp "Swoose Group" (incl supt sqs, 488th Bomb Sq, 8-25 (WWII) #16768 889th/1884th/1891st Avn Engrs #11320 1057th DM Co. 323rd ASG #21889 1073rd Sin Co (WWII) #16997 12/15th AF, 82nd Ftr Grp, 95/96/97th Sqs (P-38s, WWII) #10275 1525th AAFBU (PTD, Nov 44-Oct 45) #13893 2017th Maint Drd Co #19450 ATC: North Atrican Div (43-46) #13862 8-26 Marauder Hist Soc (WWII) #16775 Cadet Class 44-B #14263 Cadet Class 45-C (Marta TX) #14657 Goodfellow Field Medics (WWII) #20071 DV-1 Mohawk Assn #22911 P-40 Warhawk Pilots Assn #16784 P-51 Mustano Pilots Assn #16783 Pilot Class 45-A (La Junta AAB, CD) #23676 Pilot Class 38-C #15001 Pilot Class 42-A #21193 Pilot Class 44-D (Perrin Field) #11297 MARINES 1st Airdrome Bn, 15th Def Bn (42-44) #1083D 1st Mar Div, 11th Rgt, 2nd 8n, E Co (WWII) #12818 1st Mar Div, 3rd Arm'd Amtrac/6th Amtrac Bn (WWII) #17086 1st Mar Div, 4th (JASCD) #19004 1st Mar Div, 5th Rgt, 1st Bn, Wpns Co (Korea) 1st Mar Div, 5th Rgt, 2nd Bn, F Co (Korea, 50-53) #11846 2nd MAW, VMTB-134/MAG-11 #14338 3rd Div, 12th Rgt, 2nd Bn (WWII) #19338 3rd MAW. MAG 23/44, VMS8-33 Mar Sup Gro #22168 4th Mar Div, 24th Rgt, 3rd 8n #18989 4th Mar Div Assn, Recon Co #23669 4th Mar Div, L Co, 23rd Btry #23169 5th Mar Div Assn (Iwo Jima, Japan, VN) #21033 16th Rgt, C Co #17213 18th AAA (WWII) #21463 8oot Camp, Parris Isl, Plt 170 (57) #23652 Boot Camp, Parris Isl, Plt 312 (46) #19241 CINCPACELT Flag Allowance (47-49) #23688 Crash Fire Rescue #23648 HMM (HMR) 161 Assn #10851 HMR-361 #19301 MAG-25/SCAT (WWII) #21038 Mar Adv Unit/Nav Adv Grp (VN) #12975 MDTG-81/OTS-8 #12942 NAS Bunker Hill, Mar Air Det (IN) #12837 SATS Launch & Recovery #12712 SMS-23, MAG-23 #14343 VMB-611 #17120 VMF-121 (WWII) #17102 VMF-215 (WWII) #30007 VMF/VMFAW/VMFA-115 Assn (43-95) #14732

5th AF, 36th Photo Recon Sq (WWII) #16931 6th AARU (F) (WWII) #16753 6th Bomb Grp (VH) (Tinian) #15138 Bth AF, 2nd Air Div (B-24's, All Units) #19175 9th AF, 593rd SAW (ETD, 43-45) #21261 15th/20th Weather Sq Assn #20615 15th AF, 456th Bomb Grp, 3D4th Bomb Wing Sgs #21723

15th Air Depot Group #22494 19th Bomb Grp, 3Bth Recon Sq (WWII) #21074 20th Air Trans Sq/20th TC Sq (20th Mil Air Lift)

#11321 2Dth Ftr Grp Assn #12584 21st ADG #18890 40th Bomb Grp/28th Serv Sq (WWII) #11128 47th Ftr Sq (WWII) #15056 MISCELLANEOUS

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KINGS OF ROAD

Continued from page 58

in the fight with a new arsenal of minivans, sport-utility vehicles and pickup trucks (the latter of which were the single most popular vehicle in the nation, with 2 million sales annually).

Slowly, agonizingly, the Big Three engaged in the greatest fight of allthat of competing with the Japanese on the basis of quality and "fit and finish." To accomplish this, their old industrial cultures had to be dismantled. Inbred bureaucracies that had hog-tied the corporations had to be broken up and replaced by fresh design, manufacturing and management philosophies-many blatantly copied from the Japanese. Faced with the threat of import quotas, the Japanese countered by developing so-called "transplant" operations— American factories to build cross-bred "domestic-imported" cars. Honda started the trend at Marysville, Ohio, in 1982, to be followed by Nissan in Tennessee and Toyota in Kentucky. To further blur the identity of who-makeswhat, GM and Toyota formed an alliance to jointly produce cars in Fontana, California, while Ford developed a similar relationship with Mazda in Michigan and Chrysler—for several years—with Mitsubishi in Illinois. The ancient adage, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em," became familiar in board rooms in Detroit and Tokyo.

S WE speed toward the 21st century, the American car industry faces a time of challenge and the untold opportunity that so often springs from it.

Although the sword of Damocles hangs over the Japanese in the form of quotas, embargos and tariffs that could be imposed by Congress-forcing Japan to hold annual sales at about 1.2-1.5 million units-the domestic turf war is far from won. Honda battles annually with Ford's Taurus for best-selling-car honors, while Toyota, thanks to its ever-increasing transplant production, threatens to overtake Chrysler as the third member of the Big Three. The General Motors market share has slumped to just over 30 percent, and only its enormous financial muscle and extensive dealer network keep it from dipping further.

Overall, the Big Three's share of the American market is just 20 percent larger than was the piece of the pie claimed by GM alone during its heyday. Yes, the global market, with its 35 million cars a year, beckons—omi-

nously. The Asia-Pacific segment (Japan, China, Indonesia) already produces 500,000 more cars and trucks than our 15 million a year, making entry into that market difficult.

Which hints at the major dilemma faced by the industry: excess capacity. Experts claim that by 2000, the world's 50-odd car companies will be capable of rolling out 22 million more units than the public can buy and drive. This portends savage competition. Couple that with rising global environmental concerns that might demand rapid development of admittedly primitive electric and fuel-cell powerplant technologies, and the long-range concerns voiced in the boardrooms of Detroit take on legitimacy.

At the same time, in those same boardrooms, all this has spurred a renewed spirit of innovation, an industrywide commitment to running leaner and meaner.

Domestic manufacturers—or more correctly, the hometown boys at GM, Ford and Chrysler (as opposed to the transplants from Japan who have put down roots here)—are frantically moving to downsize their workforces while upgrading manufacturing and design efficiencies. Over the past decade, American automakers have radically improved their product lines in terms of engineering and quality. Today they have an advantage over the imports in the critical areas of SUVs, minivans and pickup trucks.

For such reasons, and for all the talk about Hondas and Camrys, the Big Three enjoy a nearly 70 percent share of the domestic market, while the Japanese sit, restlessly, at just over 20 percent. The Europeans—primarily the Germans—and the South Koreans fight over the remainder.

This domestic preserve gives American manufacturers the confidence to look eastward to new markets on the Pacific Rim, where, for all the clatter about overproduction and competition, growth potential far exceeds that of the mature markets in North America and Europe. For Detroit has learned that as long as the product and price are right, the market will be there. After all, the Pacific Rimmers are going to buy a car from somebody. Why not from GM or Ford or Chrysler?

Perhaps more important, gone forever are the bad old days of arrogance, isolation and the resultant overblown, over-chromed arks that made American cars an international joke. Detroit is girded for battle and ready for the inevitable in this biggest, longest, toughest economic war of all.



GRAND SLAM OFFER RETURNS

UICK Motor Division is stepping to the plate again to support American Legion Baseball by offering new special incentives for American Legion members. As part of the Buick support program for American Legion Baseball, which has been in place for nearly five years, Buick contributes \$100 to the baseball program for every 1997-98 Buick Park Avenue purchased or leased by members of The American Legion family on or before Sept. 30, 1997.

Buick now offers members of The American Legion family (including Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion members) the opportunity to test drive a 1997-98 Buick Park Avenue and receive a \$50 gift package of Omaha Steaks. A purchase or lease of this model will save Legionnaires an additional \$500 on top of any current national offer, giving Legion-family members the opportunity to save money and support American Legion Baseball at the same time. These current incentives expire Sept. 30

More than \$3.4 million has been contributed by Buick to American Legion Baseball during the life of this support program. In addition to the money given directly to the baseball program, Buick also supports regional tournament play leading up to The American Legion World Series. As a major tournament sponsor, Buick provides banquet support and a hospitality tent at the World Series. A special Buick night at a Series game provides baseballs and hats to attending fans.

The American Legion and Buick also have worked together to establish a program that offers athletes substantial scholarships toward college educations. Scholarships are awarded annually at The American Legion World Series. Because of their continued involvement and support, Buick was named the official car of American Legion Baseball by the National Americanism Commission.

- Carin M. Chappelow

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What Can ARTHRON Do For Me? ARTHRON is a 100% natural nutritional suppliment that is completely safe and effective. It helps your body fight the aches and pains of arthritis without the side effects of aspirin, ibuprophin or cortisone. **ARTHRON** has no side effects.

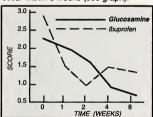
The main ingredient in ARTHRON is Glucosamine Sulfate: which contains two important building blocks for cartilage. This ingredient has been shown in recent studies to reduce pain and restriction of movement in arthritis sufferers.

The ingredients in ARTHRON are:		
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Boswellin	300mg	
Bromalain	150mg	
Alfalfa Juice Concentrate	100ma	
Willow Bark	100ma	

BOSWELLIN: an alternative to NSAIDS. It has been shown to reduce pain, swollen joints and morning stiffness. Also improves grip and physical performance. BROMALAIN: another powerful anti-inflammatory ingredient, without the gastrointestinal side effects of aspirin.

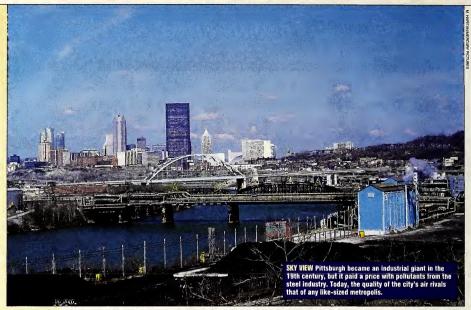
proper balance of hormones, an important factor in controlling the aches and pains, and it may reduce cholesterol levels. High cholesterol levels can impair circulation to inflamed or swollen joints WILLOW BARK: has been used as an anti-inflammatory agent for thousands of years. When it's chemically altered into salicylic acid, it 's the basis for aspirin.

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ARTHRON is completely guaranteed. To receive a refund for any unused product, simply return the tablets and container, a full refund of purchase price (less P&H) will be sent to you. To order ARTHRON, simply fill out the coupon and mail with your check or money order to the address below. We accept VISA and MasterCard. Call toll free 1-800-770-1155. All orders are shipped by FIRST CLASS MAIL. Offer void in IA and CT

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T was a kind of national wake-up call: A dense, smoky cloud settled on Donora, Pennsylvania, on Oct. 30, 1948. For three days, the blanket of filthy air hung over the city. When it lifted, half of Donora's 14,000 residents were sick and 20 lay dead, victims of what the headlines called "killer smog."

Residents of other communities—and not just in industrial regions—began wondering about the quality of air they were

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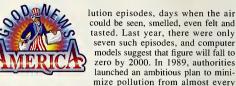
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breathing. Around Los Angeles, polluted air stung eyes, withered plants and obscured goal posts at the far end of football fields. In Rocky Mountain towns, air inversions—like corks in a bottle—capped valley communities, trapping foul air below.

People everywhere looked at smoke from open burning, car exhaust, airborne road dust, factory smokestack emissions, and other sources and uttered a collective "ugh." The air in many American cities and towns was dirty, dingy and often dangerous to breathe. With one pollutant or another (or several acting in concert) capable of causing or exacerbating asthma, bronchitis, lung cancer and a host of other ailments, cleaning the air became an absolute necessity.

Concerned citizens lobbied politicians, and in 1963 Congress passed the Clean Air Act (amended in 1970 to give it teeth). Tools varied among communities, but included tough regulations on industrial emissions, catalytic converters for cars, bans on wood and other polluting fuels and new kinds of gasoline. After decades of peering through and inhaling murky air, America was off and running in the race to once again breathe free.

And it's a contest we're winning. Even in the face of urban sprawl, America's air today is cleaner—much cleaner—than at any time in our recent past. The Environmental Protection Agency has long monitored a half-dozen major pollutants, and



imaginable source, including house paint, cars, cow manure and ships at sea. The goal is to have Los Angeles air meet all federal health standards by 2010, and so far the clean-up is running on schedule.

However, when it comes to a reversal of polluted air misfortunes, no city breathes easier than Pittsburgh. This community had become an industrial giant early in the 19th century, but along with iron, steel and textiles, its factories produced abundant air pollution. As early as 1850, newspaper editorials railed against the sad state of Pittsburgh's air, and conditions worsened well into the 20th century. Seeing across the street was sometimes impossible, even with street lights that came on at mid-day in the smoggy gloom. Laundry hung outside to dry ended up dirtier than before it was washed. Civic pride all but vanished, and even some industrial firms left town because of the dirty air.

In the 1940s, Pittsburgh finally began cleaning up its air with regulations on smoke production, fuel choices, emissions and combustion equipment. Natural gas replaced coal in many homes, and diesel

fuel did the same for trains and boats. With some prodding, industries began screening their emissions. Financier Richard Mellon reportedly warned the Pennsylvania Railroad that if it didn't cease lobbying against smoke control for Pittsburgh, he would order

Government and corporate America have taken a stand to clean up smog-choked skies—a breath of fresh air for large cities and their neighboring communities.

since 1970, levels of five of these contaminants have declined, respectively, 98 percent (lead), 79 percent (particulates, which are soot-like particles), 41 percent (sulfur dioxide), 28 percent (carbon monoxide), and 25 percent (ozone). The other compound, nitrogen oxide, increased 6 percent during that time.

Probably the single biggest pollution turnaround of all time has been the virtual elimination of lead from the air—thanks to the phaseout of leaded gasoline. This improvement alone likely has prevented thousands of health problems, especially in children. If the amount of lead in America's air declines much further, it will become undetectable, some experts

Even the air in Los Angeles is dramatically cleaner today than at any time in decades. In 1977, southern California experienced 121 Stage One pol-

Pittsburgh, he would order his many powerful companies to stop shipping on the line.

In 1970, Pittsburgh got additional help from the Clean Air Act, and the improvement was quick and breath-giving. Within five years, 65 percent of the particulate emissions and 57 percent of the sulfur dioxide emissions in Pittsburgh were eliminated. By the time the 1970s ended, so had Pittsburgh's frequent air pollution alerts. Today, the quality of Pittsburgh's air rivals that of any city its size, and in 1996 every air monitoring station in Allegheny County found air quality meeting or exceeding federal standards.

Also last year, Fortune magazine named Pittsburgh the ninth best American eity in which to live. "Goodbye, sooty steel. Hello, gleaming glass," wrote the editors. Now that's a turnaround.

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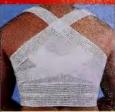
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MEAN STREETS

Continued from page 75

police officer Val Izzo, who took him to meet the 9th District's captain, James Tiano. "This is the leader of the new inline skaters' town watch," the junior officer said.

"What are you talking about?" Tiano said. Other officers laughed when Izzo sketched his plan for a town watch on skates. But within a few days, Izzo and Short had convinced the captain to give the skaters a chance. Volunteers, ranging in age from 18 to 40, underwent four hours of training by police. (Lesson One: Stay away from gunfire. "You can't outskate a bullet." recruits were told.) They rolled out four-skater patrol teams in the summer of 1995, covering a community of about 180,000 within Philadelphia. Ever since, four nights a week, except when the weather's bad, the skater quartets, equipped with flashlights and radios, race along the district's streets and sidewalks, easily patrolling up to two blocks a minute with high mobility, rolling down narrow alleys or weaving through cars parked in a lot. "We can cover twice as much distance during a patrol as people on foot," Short

The Landskaters Inline Skate Club hasn't broken up any drug rings or made any arrests. The skate patrol has helped a distraught bride-to-be recover a lost engagement ring, and a worried woman find her husband when he disappeared after a wine-tasting party. "He was sitting on some stairs in a parking lot," Short says.

Of greater concern to most residents, the club members often escort people to their cars at night. They say hello to strangers, skate away and snake back for a second look if they decide the stranger's response was suspicious. Officer Izzo says his peers on the street often feel reassured to see a group of skaters watching and willing to help. "With their skates on, these guys look about six or seven feet tall," Izzo says. Criminals appear to be somewhat daunted by their obvious presence: Crime in the area dropped 12 percent in the first year after the skaters went on their rolling patrol. And Short seems to have solved his group's image problem.

"People wave at us, and yell thanks when we go by," he says. "The skaters feel a little like the way American GIs must have felt when they liberated French towns from the Nazis."

Experts on citizen anti-crime initiatives say the liberation of America's streets from the grip of crime depends on a factor long important to the best generals: cohesion in the ranks, "The areas with the highest crime rates are neighborhoods where residents don't know each other," says Dr. Patrick Donnelly, associate professor of sociology at the University of Dayton in Ohio, where he teaches criminology. Neighborhood watch groups or other initiatives are most likely to spring up and succeed, he says, in stable communities where crime has recently increased. It helps, too, if churches, police, politicians and institutions like hospitals or local businesses join residents as allies.

By Donnelly's definition, his own neighborhood of Five Oaks in Dayton was ideal ground for a grassroots campaign against crime. The area of some

"The heat is on in Five Oaks, so stay away."

-Patrick Donnelly, Dayton, Ohio

5,000 residents needed help in the early '90s. Prostitutes roamed the streets and took their customers into alleys, cars and trucks near the house where Donnelly lived with his wife and five young children. In the late 1980s, crack sellers looking for more upscale buyers moved into the racially diverse neighborhood, and residents were terrified by the drug-running cars careening through streets where kids played.

But the community connections were tight enough to spawn a radical defense. With the support of local politicians, citizens by the hundreds held meetings and lobbied successfully for installation of a series of iron gates closing off dozens of streets like the dead ends of a maze. No one can race through the neighborhood anymore.

The gates inconvenience residents, Donnelly acknowledges. Many have to wend their way through the maze to get home. But there aren't many complaints. Reports of robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft, arson, prostitution, vandalism and in-

toxication all dropped significantly after the barricades went up. Donnelly says the reason was that the road blocks sent a signal of community cohesion to criminals: "The heat is on in Five Oaks," he says, "so stay away."

The "heat" that shields communities is actually the warmth of a close-knit neighborhood, agrees Elinor S. Price, a 63-year-old grandmother and manager of Woodlands Watch. That's an anticrime partnership protecting the 48,000 residents of the Woodlands, a planned community 27 miles north of Houston, Texas. The partnership—among private citizens, police, firefighters and schools-is built on the "little brick" philosophy, Price says. "You build a strong foundation brick by brick," with a core of residents willing to meet newcomers, monitor rumors, keep an eye out for each other's safety and even teach the rudiments of detective work to youngsters.

Every year, kids and adults alike join in a game called "I.D. the Burglar." On a night of neighborhood block parties, volunteers playing the role of a potential thief drop by the gatherings, stay for less than a minute and say a single line, like "Oh, I guess I'm in the wrong house." After the "burglar" leaves, party-goers collaborate to draw up a description, from the visitor's height down to the color of his shoelaces. Police compare the descriptions with photos of the volunteer villains. Groups that do the best job of identifying the strangers win prizes, such as 25 tickets to a folk-music concert. From an early age, Price says, children learn Sherlock Holmes skills, for example how to line up the top of a stranger's head with available benchmarks, like the height of a door, so they can be more accurate in providing descriptions.

In one recent case, a 13-year-old girl out for a walk encountered an exhibitionist, Price says. The girl kept walking and calmly called police when she got home. "She remembered the color of his shorts and said she had seen a yellow mountain bike on the ground near him," Price says. "She even remembered that he had hairy legs." Police were able to make an arrest based on her description.

"You haven't missed a thing," they told the girl. "How did you learn to do this?"

"Well, my neighborhood won the I.D. the Burglar Contest," she said. More than that, America had won another volunteer willing—with the help of her neighbors—to make life tough for criminals.

TURNAROUNDS

NTO THE WOODS AGAIN

HE first Europeans to land on America's shores were awestruck by the vast forest that greeted them. The great ocean of trees flowed west from the Atlantic's

edge farther than anyone could imagine. The eastern third of the country was virtually one big arboreal blanket, and speculation held that a nomadic squirrel might travel from the East Coast to the Mississippi River without ever touching





the ground. Later, scientists estimated the size of America's original forests at 1 billion acres.

For nearly two centuries, little changed. Then, early in the 1800s, pioneers pushed west, the immigrant trickle became a torrent, and trees began to fall.

Wood built homes, fueled factories and provided countless railroad ties. For every person added to the population, farmers tilled another three or four acres, usually after stripping the land of its trees. Psychologically, forests symbolized wilderness, while cleared land represented civilization.

Besides, there were always more trees over the next hill.

The pace of forest destruction quickened throughout the 19th century and into the 20th. Between 1850 and 1910, more forest vanished than in the previous 250 years—about 190 million acres or 13.5 square miles every day. Articles in *The New York Times* warned of the country's impending complete deforestation, and businessmen fretted about the coming timber famine.

Around the turn of the century, however, a growing cadre of conservationists decided that forest profligacy must cease, that the face of America must never stand naked and treeless.

They fought for and got protected public forests, but their greatest contributions were the novel notions that forests are not inexhaustible and that Americans should actually plant trees.

They called the concept "reforestation." By the 1920s, the idea that trees are a renewable resource had sunk in, and the timber harvesting came into equilibrium with planting.

Today, America has as much forested land as in

With continued good management, our tremendous forest resource—the envy of the world—will be with us forever. Timberland towers as our country's most valuable and enduring crop.

1920—roughly 737 million acres or one-third of our vast nation. This represents 70 percent of the wooded area that existed in 1600, no mean conservation accomplishment in the face of a population that has increased a whopping 5,000 percent since the beginning of the 19th century.

This does not mean, however, that we have stopped cutting trees. Wood still builds our homes

and in a hundred other ways enhances our lives. Based on weight, Americans use as much wood as plastic, cement and all metals combined. Timber remains the nation's most valuable agricultural crop. Thanks to reforesta-

tion, we quite literally have our trees and use them too, and since the 1940s, annual forest growth (in volume) has consistently exceeded the amount of timber harvested.

Inherent in the great forest turnaround has been a tree-planting fervor unlike any other in the world. Since 1960, we have planted nearly 60 million acres of trees, 2.4 million acres in 1995 alone.

Every year, billions of new young trees are tucked into the earth, many via bended back and the armfelt swinging of an ancient axelike tool called a hoedad, which parts the soil to make room for a single seedling.

Other terrain reverts naturally to woodland when formerly harvested plots reseed themselves or existing forests swallow up abandoned farms. In addition to millions of seedlings sewn where you might expect them, trees have been planted everywhere from the sheer granite face of NORAD's Cheyenne Mountain to the devastated slopes of Mount St. Helens.

Forest resurgence is most noticeable, however, in the East, where woods now cover half the land. New Hampshire is 90 percent forested and Vermont 80 percent—up from 35 percent in 1850.

Writing in *The Atlantic Monthly*, Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature*, asks readers to imagine a time-lapse video of recent forest changes shot from outer space. In eastern North America, he says, you'd see "a patch of green spreading like mold

across bread" as forests branch across the once-barren land-

Forests and trees have always been part and parcel of the American experience—from Longfellow's "spreading chestnut" to California's towering redwoods to bristlecone pines that were already old when Christ walked the earth. America's huge public forests—like the 191 million acres

in the National Forest system—are the envy and towering leader of the world.

And under continued good management, our tremendous forest resource will be with us forever. Long after the last Middle Eastern country has pumped its last barrel of oil from deep within the belly of the earth, America will still be a wooded wonderland.

OUIET HEROES

Continued from page 82

average of more than 10 fires a day. During his tenure, Warren has worked in disaster relief at the World Trade Center bombing; the USAir, Avianca and TWA crashes; floods in St. Louis and an earthquake in California.

U.S. Air Force veteran Bud Tatum, a native of Oklahoma City, and his wife, Doris, are also Red Cross disaster volunteers. The Tatums signed on in 1992 after financially supporting the Red Cross for many years. They joined their local disaster services unit and took courses on emergency preparedness, disaster relief and first aid. Immediately upon completing their courses, they were called to Globe, Arizona, where they spent three weeks helping flood victims. Since then, Bud and Doris have responded to floods, tornadoes, high-wind emergencies and the devastating bombing in their own com-

In April 1995, while the entire nation watched television news reports in disbelief, Bud worked furiously to rescue victims from the bombed federal building in Oklahoma City. As fate would have it, Bud happened to be a few blocks from the building when the bomb exploded, and he was on the scene before rescue crews arrived. He administered first aid to two severely injured people, preventing one from bleeding to death.

As he carried dead toddlers from the wreckage, Bud had no idea that two of his closest friends had died in the building's Social Security office. Doris helped care for families of the victims while they were waiting to hear the fate of their loved ones. Bud said he and his wife somehow become energized with each disaster because they knew people needed them. Last year, for his exemplary service, Bud Tatum was named one of 11 national everyday heroes.

Blueprint for Heroism

Other volunteers became heroes by learning such lifesaving skills as CPR, first aid, or the Heimlich maneuver and saving a life. While attending a swim meet at her high school in Lockport, Illinois, Kirsten Ziemke heard a spectator cry out for a doctor. Having completed her Red Cross lifeguard, first aid and CPR training a week earlier, Kirsten pushed through the crowd to see if she could help. There she found

Walter, a middle-aged man who had no pulse and was not breathing. She immediately started CPR. Within minutes, a nurse found her way through the crowd and took over the mouth-tomouth resuscitation while Kirsten continued chest compressions. Together, they worked on Walter for 10 minutes when paramedics arrived and eventually stabilized his heartbeat. At the hospital, he underwent an emergency angioplasty and slipped into a coma for a week. But today, Walter is fully recovered and is Kirsten's special friend. Their families visit, share meals and exchange holiday gifts. Kirsten, now 17, says her biggest reward is that Walter is alive.

Like Kirsten, nearly 13 million Americans received health and safety training in aquatics, caregiving, CPR, first aid and HIV/AIDS education in 1996. Now they, too, are ready for emergencies in their schools, churches or supermarkets. These people will know what to do in case their spouse, neighbor, co-worker or stranger should have a personal emergency. In 1996, 132 people received the Certificate of Merit—the highest national award issued by the American Red Cross to individuals who saved or sustained someone's life as a direct result of Red Cross training.

Who are these people, and why have they come forward? They are your neighbors and family, friends, coworkers or maybe even you. They volunteer in local American Red Cross chapters because they believe in humanity, and because of them, the world becomes a warmer place.

As president of the Red Cross, I am privileged to have an army of 1.3 million volunteers. Volunteers have allion volunteers. Volunteers have allion actional character. From our earliest days, when whole communities gathered to raise a barn for the benefit of one member, the volunteer spirit has bound us together and made our system work.

Today, there are 44 volunteers for every paid employee of the Red Cross. They make it possible for the organization to provide relief to disaster victims and help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. By focusing on volunteers, the Red Cross maximizes the talent and generosity of a caring public.

Volunteers find reward in the satisfaction of helping others. They somehow squeeze in the time despite all the other demands on their lives.

Volunteers in leadership roles are an integral part of the Red Cross, at the lo-

cal, state and national levels.

Every day, the American Red Cross helps people in emergencies, whether it's half a million disaster victims or one sick child who needs blood. People who learn how good it can feel to lend a helping hand make our vital work possible.

I once heard someone say the Red Cross rushes into places everyone else is trying to leave. There's nowhere in this world where volunteerism burns brighter than at 1,345 Red Cross chapters across America.

And every day across our nation, countless Americans, individually and in service with other volunteer organizations, roll up their sleeves and quietly go about the business of helping both neighbors and strangers in need. There is no higher calling.

MAKE A OIFFERENCE

Continued from page 82

largest volunteer program in the federal government. For over 50 years, volunteers have escorted patients at VA hospitals, provided military honors at burial services and placed flags on graves for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Contact VAVS at: 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420; (202) 565-7405.

Make-A-Wish Foundation ensures that children under age 18 with life-threatening diseases will have their wishes granted. Requests have ranged from all-expense-paid trips to Disneyland to building a backyard fishing pond. For more information: Make-A-Wish Foundation, 100 W. Clarendon, Suite 2200, Phoenix, AZ 85013-3518; (800) 722-9474.

SafeHaven's goal is to ensure a safe, secure environment for individuals seeking shelter, counseling or support services. They seek to prevent domestic violence and increase public awareness through education. Their 24-hour crisis hotline is: (800) 491-1114. For more information: SafeHaven, 230 N.E. Evansdale Road, Kansas City, MO 64116-2623; (816) 454-3581.

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F ever an industry had an ugly reputation, it was mining—especially coal and specifically strip mining. Time was when the huge earth movers entered one end of a mining area, tore the ground asunder, exited the far end and never looked back. In their wake lay moonscapes of ruined land, hideous scars, displaced wildlife and polluted streams. It was, quite simply, rape by bulldozer in which crude technology was matched by the primitive attitudes of many miners.

Where coal seams ran deep, the machines dug great channels in the earth, creating canyons with dangerous highwall precipices. Trees and topsoil were bulldozed under.

Many operations left acidic overburden (rocks, gravel or other material) exposed to the elements, allowing rain or melting snow to carry the polluting acid into nearby streams, turning them the color of orange soda.

Landslides and erosion often followed in the wake of surface mining operations.

In the 1940s, some states began restricting these practices, but unrepentant strip mining did not really meet its match until the earth-friendly era of the

Specifically, Congress in 1977 passed the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA), landmark legislation that essentially halted laissez faire coal removal.

Under SMCRA, strip miners are now required to protect streams and other waters, refill cuts they make in the earth, return the land to its original contours, and plant grass or other native cover.

They also must post a reclamation bond that is not fully refunded until the new vegetation is five, or sometimes even 10, years old.

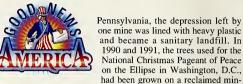
Strip-miners today must skim off the topsoil and set it aside. Only then can they bring in huge draglines capable of removing up to 250 tons of overburden with a single bite.

Across the face of America, scars from former mining days are healing, and new ones are prevented from forming. Removing minerals carries with it the responsibility to restore the land to be enjoyed by people for years to come.

With "surface" coal seams (themselves 3 to 20 feet thick) sometimes lying 75 to 100 feet underground, the amount of disturbance can be greatand the reclamation both extensive and expensive. Once the coal has been removed, the overburden is replaced and contoured, and the topsoil spread and seeded.

Reclaimed areas can become anything from wildlife habitat to farmland to parks.

The Eastern Kentucky Regional Airport, near the town of Hazard, sits atop a reclaimed mining site. In



ing site. At one Montana mining location, a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course now covers part of an old tailings bed, and elsewhere, houses are being built on a former mining area.

The Deer Ridge coal mine in southern Indiana turned its site into 49 permanent ponds (stocked with bass, bluegills and catfish), 19 shallow wetlands with waterfowl nesting habitat, and hundreds of acres of trees and upland cover for quail, doves, woodcock and songbirds. In 1991, authorities released 16 Canada geese at the former mine location, and today the flock numbers in the hundreds. In Kentucky, the Ridgeline Mine left behind an 11-acre lake complete with nine waterfowl nesting islands. When the local Earth Day picnic was held at the lake, youngsters pulled in 600 pounds of bass and catfish.

Surface mining occurs in all 50 states and provides 60 percent of the coal and nearly all the gravel, copper, uranium and iron used in this country. Since 1970, more than 2.5 million acres of mined lands-an area larger than the state of Delawarehave been restored to original or better condition. In Illinois alone, the coal industry has in the last

decade created 3,000 acres of wetlands. After a few years, many reclaimed areas become invisible, impossible for casual observers to identify as once having been disturbed.

In addition, SMCRA also levies a tax on coal, and that money is used to reclaim previously abandoned mines across the American landscape.

Over the last two decades. 100,000 acres of such sites

have been restored, and more than 14,000 old mine shafts and other tunnels have been filled, closed or otherwise rendered safe.

Across the face of America, scars from former mining days are healing, and new ones generally are prevented from forming. In a major break with the past, surface mining now is universally recognized as a temporary use of the land. Today, the right to remove minerals from our Mother Earth carries with it the responsibility to restore the land for future generations.

LAND OF LEARNING

determined to stay forever in ruts created in the last century. This is whybased on whether children are learning what they need to know-not one state has a school system that adequately meets the needs of its children. According to a recent Education Week survey, not a single state even came close to having 50 percent of its students perform at or above the "proficient" level, meaning the student is well-prepared for the next level.

The public's dissatisfaction with the current condition of our schools-as contrasted with sparkling success stories that exist in some schools in every part of our country-is what has made education the No. 1 issue in America and caused President Clinton to declare improving schools the keystone of his second term.

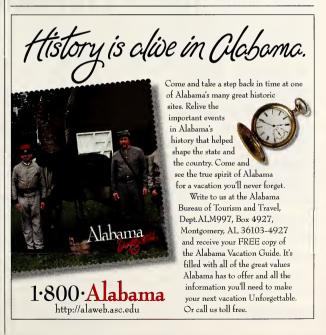
Most of us know from our own life's experience that education is at the bottom of almost every problem or opportunity in America. It is the way we balance the budget, offer equal opportunity, understand our democracy, the way we create new jobs and win wars.

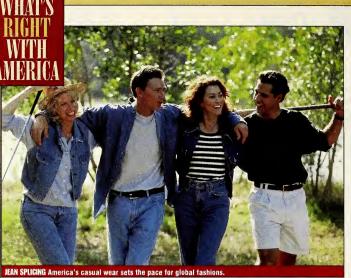
We must create for our children a system of public schools built upon the same principles that built our worldclass colleges: choice, freedom and excellence. These schools might be in the same buildings. They might have many of the same teachers. But there will have to be dramatic changes: higher academic standards; more choices for parents; more freedom for teachers to create schools that meet the needs of children; modems instead of library cards; making teaching truly professional by ending tenure; creating master teacher career ladders that pay teachers based upon their ability; paying the best teachers up to \$100,000 yearly.

A commitment to the best schools and education also means that even though life has never been busier, it is time for parents to put first things first. Parents are each child's first teachers. My mother gave me a library card when I was three. She, not the president of the United States, taught me to read before I entered first grade. That responsibility has not changed.

Nothing is more important to another American century than giving every family the opportunity to choose one of the best schools in the world for their children.







Off-the-Rack Elegance

Dizzying colors and laid-back styles symbolize much of our country's spirit of expression and adventure.

By Carolyn Strauss

MERICAN style. Many of the world's self-appointed fashion experts believe there is no such thing. After all, the French created readyto-wear, and Paris still reigns as the center of the fashion world-doesn't it? American designers were not even the first to show coordinated sportswear, which they usually take credit for having invented. Perhaps most shocking of all, no one in this country had anything to do with developing the first department store—a concept as American as apple pie.

Fashion snobbery aside. there is no doubt that Americans have been the arbiters of some of the world's most popular-and most imitated-styles. There is nothing more American than a pair of jeans and a white cotton T-shirt (think James Dean or the Gap); urban cowboy chic (think country line dancing lessons); a

baseball cap worn backwards (think Ken Griffey Jr.); or exercise clothes worn as streetwear (think the supermarket on a Saturday morning).

These clothes and accessories possess a few common elements which define the manner of dress preferred by vast numbers of American men and women: They are simply designed, extremely practical and unquestionably comfortable, attributes which can be found in all-American favorites ranging from preppy tweeds and prairie-girl skirts to Spandex shorts and pumped-up sneakers.

It's not only what we wear, but also how we wear it, that distinguishes us from the rest of the clothes-conscious world. Americans have a certain offhand, potluck-supper approach to getting dressed, known in some circles as "casual

always button every button. tuck in our shirttails, match up our colors nor knot our ties. We take our comfort seriously. This is, after all, the birthplace of wash 'n' wear.

The foundation of American style is rooted in our forefathers' commitment to independence, freedom of expression and individuality. Soon after the Revolutionary War, the disciples of George and Martha Washington expressed a determination to wear only homespun, homesewn clothing-the beginnings of a longstanding tradition of buying American. The Amish and Quakers who sought religious freedom here brought with them a simplicity and practicality that dominated early American fashion-and is the hallmark of contemporary American design.

Many of our most notable fashion trends began in the mid- to late-1800s. Some grew out of our love of the great outdoors, others from our obsession with sports and exercise. The West was won by cowboys who became legends in their own time, and their Stetsons and boots have become icons of a definitively rugged American look (whether it's the real thing or a genuine Ralph Lauren imitation). Levi Strauss made his first canvas pants for miners in the 1850s, eventually offering them in indigo-blue denim. Classic blue jeans, arguably America's most important contribution to fashion, continue to symbolize this country's hardworking, easygoing, no-nonsense spirit of adventure-as evidenced by the dizzying array of styles, colors, price points and famous names emblazoned across the rear.

The late 1800s saw the rise of our greatest national

Please turn to page 115

Carolyn Strauss is a New York Citybased model and fashion show commentator. She's appeared on CNN Today, Entertainment Tonight and elegance." This means we don't The Sally Jessy Raphael Show.

seek hospitalization. I was sick and weak from tuberculosis, and I traveled with my brother and his friend toward Munich. We had been walking a full day when we came upon a tank column.

As we walked on, we witnessed a soldier eating from a can with his bayonet. When he caught my eye, he jumped off the tank and gave me his unfinished rations, which I shared with my brother and his friend. Then I fell to the ground, kissed his boots and cried for the first time since my incarceration. He called to his fellow soldiers for more rations.

He then removed a handkerchief from his pocket and gave it to me. I thought it was to wipe my eyes. Soon after this episode, he received a command to leave.

Later, I discovered that the handkerchief was the flag of the United States of America. I have kept this flag of freedom as my most treasured memory of that eventful day, a day of thanksgiving and rebirth, all because of the heroic Americans. I knew then that someday with God's help, I would go to their great country and become a cit-

After months in a hospital, I was released, although I was still fragile, I moved to a displaced persons camp and spent the next two years searching for my family. I eventually learned that they were gassed in the death camp of Treblinka.

I applied to emigrate to a number of countries, my first choice being America. I was put in the custody of the U.S. government's committee for orphaned children. Following many physical examinations. I was brought to an orphanage.

Shortly thereafter, we prepared to sail for the United States. What a joyous and memorable day that was for me, to go to the land of a free people.

I was filled with happiness and amazement upon my arrival on April 10, 1948. I came here hoping to be adopted. I was functionally illiterate and still in poor health, emotionally and physically. As soon as I stepped off the ship, I fell to my knees and kissed the ground. There were tears in my eyes for my lost family. They would never see what I was to see, the wonder, the strength and the freedom of America. My future in this new land was now in my hands.

I give much credit to my first teachers and the American people who helped me assimilate into American

I was fortunate to live the American dream. I became a naturalized citizen on May 3, 1953.

Even after five decades, my faith in America remains unwavering. My traumatic past still haunts me, and I live in the shadows of my tragic child-

I have suppressed painful memories and immersed myself in my education, family and work.

On Oct. 21, 1995, my dream of many years was fulfilled. I founded a memorial along Boston's historic Freedom Trail to commemorate the 6 million Jews and 5 million other victims of the Holocaust, and to acknowledge the American liberators. This memorial has brought me peace and symbolizes final rest for all our lost loved ones. But I shall remember that precious symbol of red, white and blue that wiped away a boy's tears and lead him to a land whose people treasure and revere liber-

Continued from page 48

building confidence. The love that exists between you and the child, his desire to please you, will enable you to pass on your value system and cause him to internalize those values, make them his own.

By six or seven, such a child is already a winner; even a bummer of a kindergarten teacher will not deter him. He knows he can do it, not because you have told him he can, but because you have shown him he can every day of his life, every day of her life.

My mother never got to meet my drill instructors, and she did not get to meet all those teachers who wielded a great influence in my life, but they all worked as a team, coming together to make me sure of myself, letting me know I could succeed.

No matter what you accomplish in life, nothing could make you more proud than success with your children. It certainly takes time and work, but there is no greater reward. It certainly has a way of building a parent's self-

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"It's All Free for Seniors"

by Murry L. Broach - Staff Writer

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WE STILL TRUST

Continued from page 39

to be these things without a belief in a personal God who cares, loves and enters into human experience to bring about the impossible.

"In God We Trust" is not just a phrase, but a depth of truth for America. It goes hand-in-hand with the American vision and dream. Our nation's founders saw a new country not governed by a monarch, but one where the citizens would govern the land. At the time, this was a unique idea that placed importance on the individual under God. It turned the pyramid of government upside down.

America has always stood for the rights of the individual. Each individual created by God has rights and possibilities. That is why we oppose communism: It teaches people to look to the state as their leader and provider. It is a paternalistic system that sees the state as the father, provider and protector. But we have witnessed the near demise of that dark trinity in recent years.

The emphasis in my ministry always has been on the individual because I believe that God has given to each of us a brain and various gifts. These gifts are best used and expressed in the freedom of individualism. It is this thinking that places the importance on you and me.

For nearly 50 years now, I've been a pastor, and I've seen the changes that have come about in people when they allow God to come into their lives. People of poverty become people of substance and deep character. People of depression and hopelessness become people of courage and hope. People of despair become people of joy. God makes the difference in peoples' lives. They are transformed! That is why Americans are turning to religion today. They see the evidence. They know their need and the needs of people around them. The only standard that remains true is God. America is turning to God.

Now, one final thought: When the chips are down, Americans know their responsibility to their neighbors and duty to their nation. The outpouring of compassion by the American public during times of tragedy is unmatched. The Bible declares that "God is love" and that this powerful force is demonstrated through people like us. There is no doubt about it: In God We Trust!

HARVESTERS

Continued from page 86

buffalo meat slaughtering plant to a pasta factory. Tens of thousands of farmers are literally business partners.

Cooperation takes other forms as well. It includes a network of extension service offices that dispense technical advice in every farming state, about 55 commodity groups that spend more than \$700 million annually in farmer-paid fees to promote and improve their products, and universities and government agencies that share know-how for free.

It's hard to imagine, for instance, where Florida's citrus industry would be without the University of Florida and Florida's extension service, says Rex V. McPherson II, an Orlando orange grower.

McPherson, a third-generation citrus farmer, says university research and the extension system helped develop and educate growers to plant higher-yielding tree rootstalks and denser plantings that have doubled the number of orange trees per acre over the past 25 years. He's anxious to see the next focus of research bear fruit: cold-resistant citrus trees.

This spirit of cooperation has boosted the productivity of potato growers as well, says Jeff Raybould, a Rexburg, Idaho, potato farmer. He talked from his 800-acre farm just a few days after attending Idaho's annual Potato School, where new research on spud-growing is imparted to farmers.

"I think farmers evolve, they become better at what they do. You all improve together," says Raybould. Among the latest improvements on the Raybould farm: a new potato variety bred to resist the dreaded potato beetle.

Of course, even a wonder product needs marketing to catch on. And that's the second intangible. Simply put, agriculture wouldn't be where it is without the genius of American salesmanship.

Take the coming of machine harvesters in the 1800s. It took a sustained sales effort—so vigorous it sometimes degenerated into violence among gladiator-like competitors—to persuade farmers to buy their newfangled contraptions.

In the 1930s, another key product, hybrid corn, caught on only after years of promotion by a few companies whose founders were convinced that hybrids were the way to go.

"There is no greater myth connected

with the story of hybrid corn than the popular notion that it sold itself," sas Richard Crabbe in his book, *The Hybrid Corn-Makers*. "The fact is, no more effective and intensive job of selling a new development was ever done in all the long history of American agriculture."

The marketing paid off in more ways than one. Hybrid corn dramatically boosted corn production and, by feeding a nation at war, probably played as critical a role in defeating the Nazis as air power.

Today, marketing remains a key to agricultural advances. Genetically engineered seeds, which went on the market last year and promise benefits aplenty to farmers, have required millions of dollars in promotion. The free-wheeling salesmanship has helped make America a leader in the use of genetically modified crops.

There is one more reason, intangible but fundamental, for the American success story on the farm: Political and economic freedom.

Agriculture in the United States, it's fair to contend, has enjoyed more freedom to strive, and fail, than in any other major food-producing country. As result, agriculture tends to be an inventor-rich field. I think of those I've run

into, like an Indiana man who's come up with a low-cost greenhouse cooling system that could revolutionize the greenhouse industry, or a company pursuing a method of extracting a nearpure protein from corn that could become a highly nutritious food supplement.

Here's how Ronnie Mohr, who has farmed in Indiana all his life except for service in the Army during the Vietnam War, puts it: "The free enterprise system has helped us become more productive. You work hard and improve your brain, and you have a chance to succeed."

And, it turns out, feed the nation and much of the world at the same time.



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HOOPS & OREAMS

Continued from page 76

friend was shot before my eyes," she says. "It could just as well have been me"

But Nivia was lucky; she found her way to the Madison Square Boys & Girls Club, where a counselor saw something more than toughness. "Her street experiences had made her empathetic," says Guy Mallory. "She had an aura of power that made others want to follow her."

On the day Nivia turned 15, she appeared on a television program in Atlanta, a city where 45 percent of crime is gang-related, to tell her story and encourage gang members to change their lives.

Similar stories can be heard in 1,800 other Boys & Girls Clubs. Denzell Washington says he spent his entire childhood at the club. "They had to send me home," he says. What he liked was the window it opened on a wider world. Says Washington, a father of four, "I'm living proof of the good they do."

There are other ways to get to kids.
Music is one of them.

Iris Stevenson, a warm, energetic woman in her late 30s, has performed near miracles at Los Angeles Crenshaw High, a hardscrabble, predominantly black/Latino/Asian school. When she came to Crenshaw as its music director in 1985, the number of students taking choir was 12. It's now 700, and there's a waiting list for her music classes.

When her 80-member Elite Choir appeared on a Lou Rawls TV special, it brought instant fame to Crenshaw's music. Suddenly, kids who had never ventured beyond "the hood" were boarding planes for the Caribbean for the Jamaica Jazz Festival (which they handily won).

Some of the money for choir trips has come as a result of a movie contract when Stevenson's life inspired the film *Sister Act II*. But the kids raised their own funds when Stevenson took them on a whirlwind tour of Europe, where they wowed audiences with a mix of high-energy gospel, blues, jazz and Broadway show tunes. In Mannheim, Germany, they drew a crowd of 2,000. In Paris, 800 people packed a cathedral, a thousand more

spilling outside hoping to get in.

Students heap praise on their teacher. "She's like a gift to us," says Nakisha Blackman, whose solo Help Somebody brought many in the crowd to tears.

"She says a choir is like a family," says Chad McDonald, a baritone who plans to study opera after graduation, "and it is."

Perhaps some of the most heroic efforts are made by ordinary people with hearts of gold, who see a need and are there to help.

In Minnesota, 64-year-old Thelma Buckner has been giving kids who need help something to hold on to for more than three decades. She's opened her St. Paul home to wayward kids, fed them, clothed them and cared for them with her own family. She sees that they go to school and to church. And she invites them to her storefront quilt shop where she offers them quilting lessons, pizza parties, Bible verses and a heavy dose of lessons in life. "Some people take in stray cats," she says. "I take in 'misplaced' kids. It's my mission, my job." By her count, 560 youths have shared her home and her family.

Another person whose optimistic outlook on life is inspiring kids living in low-income projects is Joe Asberry, a professional basketball player who grew up in Oakland, California, amid the temptations of drugs and crime. Now he's on the international basketball circuit in Germany, giving hours of his time every day to Hamburg's most troubled kids, making it his mission to get them to the gym, teach them that it doesn't matter how high you can jump or how fast you can run. "Life's what you shoot for," he says in broken German. He tells them it's important to get an education. "I'd rather see them go to college and become an engineer or doctor than be a dunker like me."

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pastime—baseball—and with it an insatiable lust for sports-related fashion. Today, baseball caps bearing logos and slogans have become more than just an expression of team pride. Wearers choose styles and colors that reflect their individuality. Little

Leaguers turn their caps backward as a rallying cry for their teammates. And teenage boys and girls face a new rite of passage: being sent to the principal's office for wearing baseball caps

in the classroom.

Athletic Americans in the late 19th century sported sensible rubber-soled shoes designed purely for comfort. The popularity of today's performanceoriented athletic shoes has become a local and worldwide phenomenon. They're worn on the field, in the gym, to the office and out to dinner. They are highly styled, high-priced and marketed by high-profile, highly paid athletes. And we can't get enough of them. At least one generation of Americans believes that Nike invented sneakers, but many of us know better. Converse introduced its All Star hightop, the forerunner of modern athletic shoes, way back in 1919. And if you guessed that Keds were the first mass-marketed sneakers, your memory is better than your kids led you to believe. Keds were launched in 1917, and loyal fans say none of the hundreds of new and improved sneakers can beat the easy comfort and clean-cut style of the original.

Even as the country became more prosperous and looked to Europe and the movies in its quest for glamour and opulence, Americans clung to a basic desire for comfortable clothes that suited their casual lifestyles. The infamous "Preppie" look of the 1980s— Lacoste shirts. Shetland sweaters. tweed blazers, penny loafers, dirndl skirts and bow-tied blouses—was a throwback to the country-club style of the 1950s. It is a style that is still synonymous with conservative politics and old money, but in reality, it's about as ostentatious as the average American cares to look.

The comfort factor has taken on new meaning since the exercisecrazed 1980s. Workout gear has become an integral part the American

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wardrobe. Women wear leggings and oversized tops straight from the Stairmaster to lunch. Men emulate the style of urban bicycle messengers—those well-muscled guys whose shiny Spandex shorts literally stop traffic. And high school kids wear oversized jogging suits with such attitude you'd think they had invented them. Gym style continues to show up on designer runways in Europe and New York, and there is little doubt that its hightech fabrics and streamlined sensibility will be co-opted by the cyber designers of the post-modern world.

If, in fact, imitation is the sincerest

form of flattery, Americans have a style of which to be proud. Baseball caps line the shelves in Australian department stores. Japanese girls wear Chanel jackets and high-heeled pumps with their Gap jeans. And time was you could walk the streets of Paris without seeing a single woman dressed in gym clothes-but those days are long gone.

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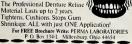
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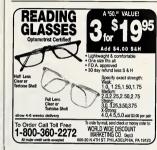
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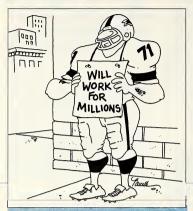
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